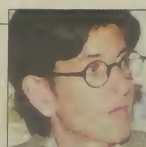
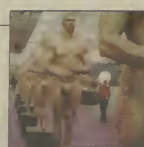


Savage has at least one lesbian fan
In exclusive interview, conservative radio
and TV host insists he's not antigay.
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Sodomy case to high court
Lawyers hope same-sex
Texas law will be overturned.
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Considering Oscar
Highlights, lowlights,
and gays at the Gala.
see Arts section



BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 33 • No. 12 • 20 March 2003

Serving the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender communities since 1971

ARIS cuts services, closes hospice

by Zak Szymanski

In a move that shocked many community members, AIDS Resources, Information, and Services of Santa Clara County, a major HIV/AIDS service provider in the South Bay, declared an economic crisis last week, abruptly canceling its \$1.1 million in county contracts and shutting the doors to its hospice program, displacing six severely ill AIDS patients on extremely short notice.

At a meeting on Monday, March 17, board members unanimously voted to keep ARIS' city contracts and to continue operations at a leaner level. The vote keeps ARIS' doors open for now, temporarily easing fears that the agency might close for good.

ARIS has been devastated by the economic downturn, executive director Barbara Galvan told the *Bay Area Reporter*, particularly since its Silicon Valley location gave way to a dependence on funding from technology-based companies that were hit hard after the boom went bust.

"The weak economy really damaged our support systems, and a lot of the programs supported by the county required matching funds," said Galvan. "We were running at deficit for a long time and quite frankly we weren't willing to put the community at risk by presuming we could do this any longer and wind up really doing damage."

But the damage has already been done, according to some concerned clients, staff, and friends of the organization who say that this disaster could have been prevented, and who fear that existing city-funded programs at ARIS may also be in jeopardy.

"None of this needed to happen," Jerry Larson, an ARIS food bank volunteer and former client, told the *B.A.R.* "This had been foreseen for a long time and the board was very inactive in doing anything about it. Many other HIV organizations in Santa Clara are surviving without being on the verge of destroying their clients' lives."

Galvan acknowledged that ARIS' financial crisis was "five years in the making," but took issue with criticism that painted the agency's recent decision as reckless.

"There were warnings this was going to happen, and we talked to the county, which assured us that another provider would seamlessly provide these services to our clients," said Galvan, noting that ARIS' canceled county contracts include food, housing, transportation, and other programs that are already up and running under Health Connections, the county's new provider.

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Joe Philomeni/Cleland

Last-ditch march for peace

By the time you read this, the bombs may be falling in Iraq, as the *Bay Area Reporter* went to press just as President Bush's 48-hour ultimatum to Saddam Hussein was set to expire. Above, antiwar protesters marched in San Francisco on Saturday, March 15. Other peace vigils took place throughout the weekend and activists are ready to mobilize once war begins. See story, page 2.

Dean wows delegates at Democratic confab

by Cynthia Laird

Former Vermont governor and Democratic presidential candidate Howard Dean rocked the Sacramento Convention Center Saturday, March 15 at the California Democratic Party convention with a rousing antiwar speech that had delegates standing on their feet and shouting, coupled with calls for equality for all, including lesbians and gays.

Dean, a medical doctor, was one of several Democratic presidential hopefuls who addressed some 2,000 delegates, elected officials, and party activists who gathered last weekend, but his stand against the near certain war on Iraq drew thunderous applause from the crowd, many of whom were waving placards reading "The doctor is in, Dean 2004."

Repeating a phrase that garnered much attention at a recent Democratic National Committee meeting in Washington, D.C., Dean said, "I'm Howard Dean and I'm here to represent the Democratic wing of the Democratic Party."

"What I want to know is why so many Democrats are supporting the president's unilateral position on Iraq," he said. "I want a Democratic Party that [will] balance the budget. I want an America that has health insurance for everybody. I want a government that gives us a foreign policy."

Directly challenging two presidential rivals — Senators John Kerry of Massachusetts and John Edwards of North Carolina — Dean said he doubts the party can recapture the White House in 2004 "if we vote with President Bush for a unilateral attack, then come to California and say we're against the war."



Former Vermont Governor Howard Dean was the talk of the California Democratic Party's state convention in Sacramento last weekend.

Rick Gerbner

He also chided Kerry and Edwards for skipping the Senate vote last week on so-called partial birth abortions, yet coming to California and saying they support a woman's right to choose. The Senate voted 64-33 to outlaw the procedure.

Dean spoke passionately about signing the Vermont civil union law nearly three years ago. "Gay and lesbian Vermonters have the same rights I have," Dean said, referring to state laws that cover such things as inheritance and insurance. "I want the president of the United States to explain to us why he doesn't believe all Americans are equal under the law."

Dean said he "never had a conversation with myself" over whether or not to sign the law, explaining that if he was "willing to sell out the hopes and dreams of people," he would have "wasted my life in public service."

"I don't want to be divided anymore by race. I don't want to be divided anymore by sexual orientation," Dean said.

Boos for Edwards

Edwards was politely received by the audience during the first portion of his talk, but

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Trial ordered in Araujo murder case

by Joe Dignan

While murdered Newark transgender teenager Gwen Araujo's mother wept, Alameda County Superior

Court Judge Kenneth Mark Burr found Tuesday, March 18 that there was enough evidence presented during a lengthy preliminary hearing to hold over the three remaining defendants for trial on murder charges in a case that prosecutor Connie Campbell described as a brutal, cold-blooded killing.

Burr also upheld the prosecutor's charge that the three had committed a hate crime. He revoked defendant Michael Magidson's bail and remanded him to Santa Rita Prison Farm, where his two co-defendants are being held. Magidson had been out on \$1.65 million bail, but was jailed immediately after the hearing.

"He's the primary actor, he is a danger to the community," Burr said.

Attorneys in the case said that a trial is at least six months away.

The ruling came after stop and start testimony by witnesses about the events of the night of October 3, 2002, when, prosecutors say, four young men — Magidson, 22, Jose Merel, 23, Jason Cazares, 22, and Jaron Nabors, 19 — verbally abused, beat, tortured, and finally strangled the 17-year-old Araujo at Merel's Newark home. Magidson, Merel, and Cazares have pleaded not guilty to the murder and hate crime charges.

Last month Nabors pleaded guilty to violence.
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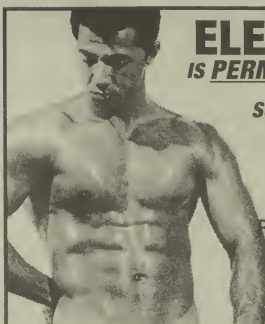


Gwen Araujo

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FIRST OF TWO SECTIONS





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Fun for the family



Joe Philomeni/Cleland

Our Family Coalition's fifth annual Family Day event brought kids and adults of all ages to the Berkeley YMCA Saturday, March 15 for an evening of food, fun, and games. Above, David, left, prepares to grab his nephew Kenyon, who just went down a slide. OFC Executive Director Rocky Morrison said that about 400 people attended and that a good time was had by all.

Peace march held on eve of war

by David Ryan Alexander

In what may have been the last large peace rally before a war in Iraq begins, tens of thousands of antiwar protesters marched through San Francisco on Saturday, March 15, including a large contingent of LGBT activists. The event marked the fourth mass demonstration to take place in San Francisco in the last five months, and although less people attended the recent rally, LGBT antiwar organizers say their groups are still growing and receiving more and more support.

Organizers estimated that 100,000 people attended the San Francisco rally, while the *San Francisco Chronicle* put the crowd at between 40,000 and 60,000 people. Police declined to estimate the crowd size.

"We've definitely become more broad-based," said Kevin Weaver, organizer of the Out Against the War Coalition, a group of organizations such as the Harvey Milk LGBT Democratic Club and LAGAI-Queer Insurrection, that have come together to protest the Bush administration's plans for a war in Iraq.

"Before, we were small but very active and vocal. Now it's become much larger and we are even more active and vocal than before," he said. "And when the war finally starts I think more people are going to be coming out because they're going to see what's going to be done in their name."

Additional organizations such as Pride at Work have decided to join forces with the OAWC, and approximately three weeks ago the San Francisco LGBT Pride Celebration Committee joined as well.

In addition to Saturday's rally, on Sunday evening OAWC participated in the first of what is planned to be a weekly peace vigil. According to Weaver, it began with Bishop Desmond Tutu of South Africa calling on the world to participate in a large vigil calling for peace. In San Francisco one of many such vigils was held at Harvey Milk Plaza, and approximately 200 people attended. OAWC has planned to hold similar vigils every Saturday from 4 to 6 p.m. at the plaza.

Also participating in the vigils will be a LGBT Latino organization called Latinos Contra La Guerra, which is headed by Victor Valdiviezo, a longtime queer Latino activist. Valdiviezo said that his group would also have weekly protests at the 24th Street BART station.

"It will be a space where the people can demonstrate their constitutional right to protest," he said. "We want to create a place for people to go and feel comfortable so they know there's a place out there where they can go to demonstrate that's a positive experience."

Valdiviezo recently traveled to Los Angeles to work on coordinating efforts with a Latino group called Latinos Against the War. While in Los Angeles Valdiviezo

said he witnessed many demonstrations and discovered that some antiwar organizers had produced an Internet listing that provided details about where demonstrations were planned to be held in more than 80 neighborhoods in the Los Angeles area. Valdiviezo hopes to be able to provide a similar resource for the Bay Area as he finishes developing the Web site for his own organization.

Both Valdiviezo and Weaver expressed that the actions and need for their organizations have become even more important as war seems imminent, and they both feel the need to be there to support their community.

"A lot of people are busy with a job or have people to take care of," Weaver said, "but they want to be involved, so we're there to help anyone in the community who wants to get involved. And we hope to keep that going, we hope to be a source of information and activism of people in the LGBT community not only for the war, but also for those who are worried about their civil liberties and where the Bush administration is taking us."

Peace activists have called on protesters to gather at 5 p.m. the day war starts at Powell and Market streets. Queer activist Tommi Avicoli Mecca said that an LGBT contingent plans to meet at that time at Harvey Milk Plaza, then proceed to the downtown gathering via Muni. The Friday after war begins, he said, queers will gather at the plaza between 5-6 p.m. ▼

Gay clubs unite for IRV

by Joe Dignan

In a rare show of unanimity, both of San Francisco's LGBT Democratic clubs and most of its gay and lesbian political leaders have banded together to demand implementation of a process that will fundamentally alter the way San Francisco elects its mayor and other city officials.

The group includes Assemblyman Mark Leno (D-San Francisco), Supervisors Tom Ammiano and Bevan Duffy, Treasurer Susan Leal, politico Debra Walker, and about 35 other community leaders.

The system, instant runoff voting, was approved by the voters in March 2002, but has yet to be put

in place because of problems in the Elections Department — and what its proponents say are road blocks put up by those who could stand to lose under the new system.

And no wonder. While Supervisor Gavin Newsom is ahead in early polls in this year's mayor's race and has raised more money than his progressive rivals, Robert Haaland, president of the Harvey Milk LGBT Democratic Club, said that, "I think under IRV one of the three left candidates, Tom Ammiano, Susan Leal, or Angela Alioto, will be our next mayor."

IRV proponents say that they fear their foes are trying to keep the system from getting up and running in time for the November election.

"I may be paranoid, but I am worried that the mayor, who has endorsed Newsom, and some mayoral candidates are working behind the scenes to stop IRV from being implemented," said Laura Spanjian, public relations chair of the Alice B. Toklas LGBT Democratic Club. "I'm sure they want to engage in the kind of negative campaigning that a runoff allows and IRV doesn't."

Caleb Kleppner, of the Center for Voting and Democracy, a non-profit that has been one of the main advocates of the plan, said that IRV minimizes negative campaigning.

"If you're Tom Ammiano or Susan Leal and you want to be the second vote of the other's sup-

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Duffy to hold public forum on Halloween

by Matthew S. Bajko

Supervisor Bevan Duffy, who promised during his campaign last year to make planning for a safe Halloween a top priority, has announced the board's City Services Committee will hold a public meeting on how to plan for this year's holiday.

Duffy said he hopes the meeting, which will take place in the board chambers in City Hall next Wednesday night, will begin the process for planning a safe event in the Castro neighborhood this October. During Halloween last year, an unruly crowd jammed city streets, tussled with police, harassed residents, bashed gays, and caused several people to be sent to area hospitals.

"This demonstrates my approach to use the forum of the City Services Committee to map a plan. This should not be an informal event that kind of happens," said Duffy. "Having a hundred thousand people coming into a neighborhood is not something to be taken lightly. And with Halloween falling on a Friday it is going to be very challenging for us to produce an event that is safe and protects the people who live in the neighborhood."

While the city for years has considered the annual Halloween event an unsanctioned, impromptu gathering, Castro residents have

argued that officials need to take ownership of the event in order to prevent ever escalating violence in their neighborhood. Duffy said the forum is intended as the first step in having the city help alleviate the problems.

"This is a way to lay the groundwork for Halloween," said Duffy, who hopes to have the meeting televised on cable channel 26. "It needs to be a city managed event. It has gone beyond being an impromptu happening."

Prior to Wednesday night's meeting, Duffy said he will be meeting with officials from numerous city departments - ranging from police and fire to parking and traffic and public works - to hear their concerns and ideas about the event. He also has asked various community groups with experience planning large events, such as the Pride Committee, Castro Street Fair officials, the organizers of the March of Light, and the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence to offer suggestions of what they could do during Halloween.

"I invited them all to give feedback and step forward to say this is something we can do," explained Duffy.

In the past, plans for entertainment or music during the evening have provoked concerns from merchants and neighbors who feared such elements would only attract a larger crowd. Those pushing to have music or an orga-

nized event have said it would give the crowd something to do other than start fights and harass people.

The issue of alcohol has also caused various suggestions to be put forth, with the police championing the idea of making Halloween a dry event. Bar owners have complained they receive unfair blame for underage drinkers who bring in their own booze and are reticent about any alcohol restrictions being put in place.

Duffy stressed that at this point no decisions have yet to be made about the event. He said everything will be open for discussion.

"I want people to have an opportunity to hear the discussion and give us their thoughts," he said.

The meeting also answers criticisms from some community members who complained Halloween was being planned behind closed doors and serves as a way for all interested parties to have a chance to provide input on how the city should plan the evening.

"I think it is great. I think the more consultation and the more sunshine and the more community input in the future of Halloween the better," said Teddy Witherington, executive director of San Francisco Pride, who raised concerns about Duffy participating in a neighborhood meeting regarding Halloween in January.

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SF Pride 2003

Grand Marshal & Pink Brick Vote

You may vote for up to three in each of Categories A & B. One choice only from Category C. Please give your name and address below to help us ensure that only one ballot per person gets counted. This information is required for verification purposes only, your name and address will not be added to any mailing list. When you have completed your ballot, please mail it to us at the address below. Envelopes containing more than two ballots will be invalid, as are photocopied ballots. **DEADLINE FOR THE RECEIPT (NOT POSTMARK) OF BALLOTS IS APRIL 1ST.**

Indicate Your Vote By Circling Up To Three Choices In Each Of Categories A & B and One Choice in Category C

COLUMN A. INDIVIDUALS

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Georgina Beyer | <input type="checkbox"/> John Manzon-Santos |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Larry Brinkin | <input type="checkbox"/> Vicki Marlene |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rahn Fudge | <input type="checkbox"/> Aleem Raja |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Robert Jobe | <input type="checkbox"/> Snatch |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Carolyn Laub | <input type="checkbox"/> Hank Wilson |

COLUMN B. ORGANIZATIONS

- ☐ Lesbians In The Visual Arts
☐ Marriage Equality California
☐ Team San Francisco
☐ Trikone
☐ Youth Gender Project

COLUMN C. PINK BRICK

- ☐ George W. Bush ☐ Dr. James Dobson ☐ Fred Phelps

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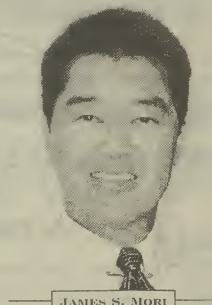


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Gay chorus readies for spring concerts

by Matthew S. Bajko

As it celebrates its 25th season this year, the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus is preparing for two spring concerts, the first a special benefit concert for a local high school choir and the second a tribute to the songs of Elton John.

Continuing a nearly 10-year relationship with the Varsity Gold Show Choir at Abraham Lincoln High School, the Gay Men's Chorus will take to the stage as part of the school's "Go for the Gold" show this month. The performance will help raise money for the high school choir to travel to two choral competitions this year.

The school, located on 24th Avenue in the Sunset, is known for its gay-friendly policies, openly gay faculty, and support for a gay student group, and its 2,500 strong student body is also a long-time supporter of the Gay Men's Chorus. During the concert on Monday, March 24, the student government will present the chorus with a \$10,000 check to aid its campaign to raise money for the Nazareth House, an AIDS hospice in Cape Town, South Africa.

For the students, it is a fitting

tribute to the gay choral group, which helped the school's show choir when it first formed a decade ago. According to Shawn Aluk, the school's student activities director, the Gay Men's Chorus was instrumental in helping establish the show choir as a musical organization at the high school.

"The Gay Men's Chorus took us under their wing," said Aluk, an openly gay teacher and director of the show choir. "Last year they invited us to sing at their 'Giving Back' concert and asked us if we ever needed their help to call them."

Aluk said the school choir needs to raise nearly \$10,000 in order to send the 50 juniors and seniors who make up the choral group to compete in two competitions in April. Along with the show choir, which performs choreographed numbers complete with costumes to pop music, Linda Bulgo, a former Miss San Francisco and a veteran cast member of Beach Blanket Babylon, will perform.

The performance will take place at the high school's auditorium at 7:30 p.m. Monday, March 24. Tickets cost \$10 for adults and \$5 for students and can be

purchased by calling Aluk at (415) 759-2700.

As the student chorus prepares for its competitions in April, the Gay Men's Chorus will be going "Beyond the Yellow Brick Road" as it performs the songs of Sir Elton John. Fashioned after last year's successful shows centered around the music of Queen, the concert will feature John's classic hits as well as songs from the Broadway musical *The Lion King*.

In announcing the concert, the chorus's artistic director and conductor Kathleen McGuire said John's "extensive body of work — from high camp and rock and roll to passionate torch songs and musical theatre — provides a fantastic vehicle in which the chorus can really shine. We will pay tribute not only to this gay performer's remarkable musical talents, but also to his contributions to the fight against AIDS, and to his fabulously flamboyant theatrics."

The chorus will present two concerts, one at 8 p.m. on Saturday, April 12 and the second at 5 p.m. on Sunday, April 13. Both shows will take place at Mission High School and tickets cost \$10 to \$40. To purchase tickets, call (415) 865-3650. ▼

Community rallies around 'Petchitecture'

by Zak Szymanski

Customers that walk into Susan Rouse's Reigning Dogs and Cats at 1766 Mission Street are instantly aware that the grooming and boarding facility is not a run-of-the-mill pet service station. The lesbian-owned business, which opened last April, features room after room of wide open space, not to mention a backyard where dogs in daycare and on overnight vacations romp during playtime. And it's not unusual for freshly shorn friendly pups to run through the store together while they wait for their guardians, as opposed to being kept in cages.

Rouse is, without question, an animal lover. But she is also one of the dedicated business owners who decided that despite a rocky economic climate, this year was

an important time to support other animal-oriented ventures. She and many other community members are sponsoring and gearing up for the annual "Petchitecture" event — "where animal meets art" — a benefit for Pets Are Wonderful Support.

Some of the area's finest architects come together each year to build extravagant pet habitats, from the luxury condo to the tree-themed scratching post. Money raised from the viewing event and the sale of the homes goes to PAWS services — which include dog walking, litter changing, food banking, fostering, and veterinary transportation for clients with life-threatening illnesses who need help caring for their pets.

This year's Petchitecture takes place Friday, March 28, from 7-10 p.m. at the San Francisco Design Center, 101 Henry Adams Street.

Fully licensed and vaccinated dogs are welcome on the first floor. Doggy daycare will be provided, as will a "bow wow" bar for furry guests, and human biscuits and other hors d'oeuvres will accompany live entertainment and a live and silent auction.

So why, one might ask, should someone spend their money and time on designer dog pads in the midst of world turmoil and national woes?

"It's about supporting the organization," said Rouse, who was helped by PAWS several years ago when her own dog was certified as a service companion. "Non-profits really get hit badly in times like these which makes it all the more important to support the ones you feel strongly about."

Tickets to Petchitecture are \$45 and are available by calling (415) 677-8688. For more information www.pawssf.org. ▼

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Teaming up to fight breast cancer



Jane Peltzman/Gleason

Co-chairs Mark Paladini, left, and Sandy "Mama" Reinhardt were all smiles Friday, February 14 at the Breast Cancer Emergency Fund's annual benefit dinner held at the San Francisco Zoo. While there was rain at the event, Reinhardt stated that \$9,000 was raised for the fund that provides emergency grants to low-income people living with breast cancer.

Pacific Center celebrates milestone, prepares for future

by Zak Szymanski

As legend has it, a gay bashing incident more than three decades ago at a local public sex site inspired a group of concerned gay men to create a support group in Berkeley, which soon attracted many community members of all genders. The group decided to incorporate as the East Bay Gay Corporation, but an Internal Revenue Service review warned organizers that the group's nonprofit status would be revoked for promoting homosexual conduct. Thus, the Pacific Center for Human Growth was born, and today, the name aptly describes its mission and the diversity of its offerings.

The Pacific Center is now 30 years old, and is the third oldest LGBT community center in the United States, providing support groups, information and referrals,

counseling for individuals and couples, HIV services, community outreach, a resource center, and social activities all with the goal of promoting the well being and empowerment of the LGBT community.

To celebrate, interested community members are invited to help plan a series of events in the making that will include a bus trip to California's wine country, a barbecue at the center, a family day at Waterworld, and an anniversary banquet.

Tough times

Of course, no organization can have such staying power without being able to adjust to various economic climates, and the Pacific Center has announced that it must abolish one half-time counselor position and reduce one administrative position to half-time. Several government grants, according to the Pacific Center newsletter,

have been reduced or eliminated. Despite the cuts, however, the counseling client load will not be reduced, and no services will be cut, said CEO Frank Gurucharri, who also voluntarily reduced his salary by 20 percent in order to maintain the center's programs.

Gurucharri was making \$52,000 a year; his new salary is \$41,600.

"It's an important gesture to show that we're all a team," said Gurucharri of his pay cut. "Very often people in the leadership positions don't suffer the same consequences and I didn't want to do that."

Although Gurucharri's required time on the job has also been reduced 20 percent, he doesn't anticipate much of a difference in terms of what is required of him, particularly since the center is actually expanding in some areas. Thanks to some key grants

page 8 ►

Wanna get hitched? Register by Monday

by Zak Szymanski

Neither Anthony Barnacott, 57, nor Fred "Kirk" Van Dolson, 50, are into the leather scene. So when the two met at the Folsom Street Fair in 2001, "We were like two fish out of a pond, I guess," said Barnacott. "We got to talking, decided we liked each other, and went from there."

Barnacott and Van Dolson will be taking the partnership plunge, along with many other couples, at Mayor Willie Brown's seventh annual same-sex domestic partners commitment ceremony on Tuesday, March 25 from 5 to 7:30 p.m. in the City Hall Rotunda.

Registered domestic partners with the City and County of San Francisco are invited to participate in the ceremony, and a reception in the South Light Court — featuring a cake-cutting ceremony and a raffle with prizes such as hotel stays, restaurant meals, and entertainment — will follow.

For Barnacott and Van Dolson, the mayor's event gives them a perfect opportunity to declare their love and "get as close to marriage as we can."

"We really feel," said Barnacott, "that we've found the person we're going to be with for the rest of our lives."

Barnacott and Van Dolson share a home with two cats in San Francisco. Attending their domestic partnership ceremony will be a lesbian couple, a gay male friend, and Van Dolson's ex-wife, who will give him away.

The couple signed up as domestic partners at both the city and state levels last year, and feel that it is important to do both, particularly since San Francisco is one of the few cities that takes such a public stand for same-sex relationships.

"We wanted to make sure we're recognized and counted," said Barnacott. "I think it's important to be involved in the city in which you live."

"I am truly proud that San Francisco is able to host this important ceremony each year," said a statement from Brown.

The first official same-gender commitment ceremony was held in 1996, when San Francisco became one of first cities to allow same-sex couples to have an official ceremony through the county clerk's office. Since then, nearly 500 couples have participated in the annual event.

Joining Brown on Tuesday will be members of the Board of Supervisors, city Treasurer Susan Leal, and Controller Ed Harrington.

Those wishing to participate in the ceremony need to register as domestic partners with the city by Monday, March 24, at noon. Call (415) 554-4960 to register as partners and to sign up for the ceremony. ▼



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OPEN FORUM

The madness begins

President Bush's ultimatum that Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and his sons leave the country within 48 hours or face war is set to expire only a couple of hours after we go to press. We expect that by the time people pick up this paper, military action by the United States will have commenced, unleashing many unknowns. This is not a proud moment for America. A president who lost the popular vote and was put into office by the Supreme Court has failed miserably at diplomacy and ordered a not-so-secret military buildup in the Persian Gulf even as United Nations weapons inspections were being conducted. There was never much doubt about the end result—a president does not order more than 250,000 troops into a region without expecting to use them in a military campaign.

The waiting is nearly over.

Bush's decision to start war in Iraq without the support of the U.N. is a result of his stubbornness and impatience with diplomacy. The hastily called summit in the Azores last Sunday was merely a photo op; less than 24 hours afterwards the administration bluntly declared that diplomacy had ended. What this holds for the future of U.S. foreign policy is a huge question mark. This new policy of preemption shows our arrogance as a nation, that we will attack another country if we so desire. That policy sets up frightening scenarios in our relations with other countries. Will we invade other nations because we don't like their leaders? Will terrorists unleash their anger at the United States by launching attacks here? There has not been convincing evidence that Saddam Hussein was an imminent threat to this country. In fact, as the administration became more desperate to show cause for the war, its evidence actually became weaker. That's why so many countries stood firm in their resolve to give inspections more time.

There was never much debate in Congress about the need for war against Iraq. The House and Senate easily gave the president authorization to use military force. That many Democrats so eagerly jumped aboard the bandwagon is yet another example of the party's inability to articulate a persuasive message against going to war—and effectively conveying that message to the public. At last

weekend's state Democratic Party convention in Sacramento, the war in Iraq loomed over virtually every other issue. It was clear that the Democrats who attended, while representing the more liberal wing of the party, were deeply concerned about the looming war. Former Vermont Governor Howard Dean was enthusiastically received by the crowd, as we report elsewhere in this issue, for his stance against the war.

House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi was one of many politicians who decried the president's policies. "President Bush proceeded in a manner that alienated our allies, antagonized the United Nations, and enflamed our enemies. I do not believe that going to war now is the best way to disarm Iraq," she said, adding that many questions remain, including the cost in human lives, the cost to the federal budget, the cost to the economy, and the cost to the war on terrorism.

Senator Barbara Boxer was equally adamant. "When they say war is a last resort

we expect them to mean it," she said. "We have squandered the united world after 9/11. A united world is crucial to national security at home and abroad."

The Reverend Al Sharpton took issue with Bush's stance on Iraq. "I sat in amazement as

Bush talked about democracy [in Iraq]. He believes in voting in Baghdad but not voting in the Security Council."

Speakers unanimously offered support for the troops—and we do as well. There surely are many gay and lesbian military personnel on duty overseas.

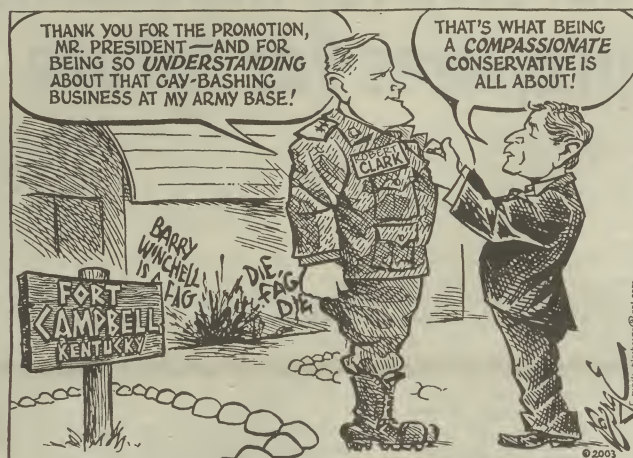
Unfortunately, because of the homophobic "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy, they can't be themselves and serve openly. They probably can't contact their loved ones as

easily, and if they're suspected of being gay or lesbian, discharge proceedings likely await them upon their return home, no matter how ably they served in the war. That's just wrong.

So now we are left waiting for military action. President Bush got us into this mess, we're not so sure he can get us out without lasting damage to the nation. ▼



Editorial



Insufficient reasons for war

by René Puliatti

We are at war. It wasn't inevitable, but it also wasn't unexpected. This war has been in the works since before the Gulf War ended during the first Bush administration, and last September, President George W. Bush apparently decided that the fight against terrorism would serve as a credible excuse for this war.

From the start, the issue has never primarily been about fighting terrorism or disarming Iraq, but removing President Saddam Hussein from power. President Bush's press secretary, Ari Fleischer, has even publicly suggested a "one-bullet policy" (i.e. assassination) as a means for resolving the matter, and to this day, regime change is seen as more important than disarmament. Indeed, while United Nations weapons inspections would eventually disarm Iraq (and contain it in the meantime), it would not result in regime change, and this path was abandoned when it began showing progress.

No one disagrees that President Hussein is a brutal dictator, and that he had weapons of mass destruction. The sad joke in the U.S. intelligence community is that we are absolutely certain that he has chemical and biological weapons, because we kept all the sales receipts.

What the vast majority of the world and its leaders do agree upon is that weapons inspections should be given a fair chance to work and that the Bush administration has not made the case of an imminent threat to the U.S. that would justify the preemptive removal of another head of state by force, even a bad apple like Saddam Hussein. After over six months of pronouncements of proof, the administration's case is actually

weaker, with evidence often proving to be blatantly false, contradicted, or unreliable, and with what high-ranking U.S. diplomats and respected intelligence veterans are decrying as the "systematic manipulation of intelligence." Further, the nations involved in this debate are not anti-American or unfamiliar with the threat of terrorism. Most are our close allies, especially in the war against terrorism, and many have been dealing with terrorists on their own home soil for decades. They have seen the evidence, but found it not sufficient to justify going to war at this time.

This war, without the support of the U.N., will profoundly undermine the whole system of international law and shared values on which the United States and the whole world rely, and will fundamentally undermine U.S. credibility as a fair player and/or arbiter in world affairs. It will greatly increase global instability by legitimizing lawless actions by other nations, individuals, and corporations. For many people, the humanitarian reasons alone are enough to oppose this war, but the carnage of this war will likely be multiplied a dozen times over as a result of the breakdown of respect for international law. For all these reasons, I oppose it.

Since we are at war, should we rally behind the president and support our military men and women fighting this war? No and yes, in that order. I support our troops wholeheartedly; the military was my family and my home for nine years of my life. I protest this war in part because I do not wish them (or Iraqis) to die unnecessarily. I understand that many military personnel are willing to die for our country, and are

anxious and tired of waiting. Still, they are also intimately familiar with the saying, "Hurry up and wait." Waiting comes with the job, but then so do body bags. Given the choice, I'm sure they'd much prefer to wait, if war can be prevented or stopped.

I also protest this war because military personnel are bound to be silent on policy matters and are themselves unable to protest the war. While many do believe this war is necessary and just, I personally know several who believe neither. At best, they see this war as a reckless use of force. At worst, it is seen as a vendetta by a spoiled son with the biggest gun on the block, with themselves as the bullets. Military personnel who are for this war have members of the Bush administration advocating their reasons for it. Those who disagree have no such voice, and rely on friends and family in the civilian world to speak their conscience.

I support our troops. I pray that casualties are minimal—on all sides—and that there will be a quick resolution of hostilities. Still, I will protest this war. The consequences of international stability from the actions of any rogue state go far beyond the instant conflict. I will work to bring the United States back into the community of nations. I will pray for peace, but I will also protest, and I will vote. What will you do? ▼

René Puliatti is a former naval intelligence officer and graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy. He is a private attorney and an officer of Alexander Hamilton Post 448 of the American Legion in San Francisco.

LETTERS

Newsom's phony claims

Gavin Newsom's splashy mayoral campaign kickoff confirmed for me what I've felt for quite some time. This man, who certainly hasn't turned down his own handouts in life (Getty loan, appointment to the Board of Supervisors), is going to run a campaign on the backs of the poorest and most vulnerable in San Francisco. This voter is not fooled by Newsom's phony claims of empathy for the homeless. He has simply chosen a complex issue that evokes strong emotional reactions in people and will use it to deflect his lack of qualifications, experience, and substance needed to lead this city.

Meanwhile, the candidate I find to be most qualified, Susan Leal, spent the same weekend meeting with city residents in several neighborhoods to explain her vision on a variety of critical issues, including the need to promote San Francisco as an ideal place to establish businesses and create jobs. As this campaign unfolds, I am confident that San Francisco voters will begin to see through Newsom and recognize Leal as the most qualified candidate in the race.

Ryan Clary
San Francisco

Mecca, get a grip

Last week I went to "ladies night" at Mecca. If you are not aware, the second Thursday night of each month lesbians are invited to come to Mecca to socialize. The event draws a very large crowd. After having dinner, my girlfriend and I were waiting just inside the front door, out of the cold, for the valet. As lovers do, we began to sweetly kiss each other. It was romantic and felt great. Nothing I would not do at any restaurant in San Francisco. We were abruptly stopped by a gay man who works at Mecca. We were told that we should stop kissing, because we were standing at the front door and the gist of his dislike was that everyone could see us.

I have lived in San Francisco for more than 20 years. I have never been told to stop kissing my lover. Especially in my own back yard. Mecca needs to get a grip. We are patrons there like anywhere else. How dare they be taking our money and stopping us from being who we are. It definitely was one of the most homophobic experiences I have had in my tenure here. How many straight couples have been stopped from kissing at Mecca? As a matter of fact, you could have seen us on Valentine's Day having a very romantic time at Azie with no one giving us rules of how to be or not to be! Mecca, get a grip. If not then let's go to 2223 for ladies night. They would love our business.

Cheryl Rosenthal
San Francisco

Observing Friday's column

I have been reading Wayne Friday's column in the B.A.R. for the last 20 years. While I have never met Wayne, I feel like I know him as he reveals week after week how his mind works offering his opinions on a variety of subjects - which recently focused on the San Francisco mayoral race. Wayne likes to make political predictions on winners and losers. May I make a few observations?

Wayne has not always picked the winner. His support of the of mayoral candidate John Molinari, who was crushed by Art Agnos a few elections ago, comes to mind.

Wayne states that he has not made up his mind as to whom he is going to vote for mayor but I do not think Wayne is being very honest because he has been promoting Gavin Newsom for mayor in his column for quite some time. I would say that, barring some unforeseen event, Newsom is Wayne's man this time around.

A few observations about Gavin Newsom - yes he does have a plan on what to do about the homeless. However, this plan has yet to be put in motion and we have yet to see if it will work. While the homeless issue is certainly an intractable problem which has plagued many municipalities and is an issue close to the voters' hearts, is this enough reason to elect Newsom mayor of San Francisco? While Newsom may have the most money right now, it does not assure him of becoming the next mayor. Three and a half million dollars bought Clint Reilly a fourth place mayoral finish last time around and all the millions spent on behalf of Willie Brown could not buy him the Board of Supervisors. Gavin Newsom is young, new to the political scene, and untested as a governmental administrator. My advice to San Francisco voters is to go slow on your mayoral race and take your time sorting this one out.

George Collins
Berkeley, California

Evaluate Newsom plan first

If Gavin Newsom deserves to be mayor based on his Care Not Cash Proposition N victory, why is it continually necessary to qualify the proposition as Wayne Friday does: "a plan - not necessarily a solution, but at least a plan - on what to do about the

homeless" ["A look at mayoral race," February 27]? Because Newsom is the only one willing to say that homeless people should not have the right to make decisions about their care, we should give him the key to Room 200?

Speaking at a forum at the Metropolitan Community Church of San Francisco, Gavin Newsom stated that the cash allowance for those people on General Assistance would not change if shelter and drug treatment services weren't available. That was before the current budget crisis. DPH is slashing mental health programs. Provisions are being made to provide only 500 new beds instead of 1,000, because it is assumed that half the people on GA will just drop out of the program since they are only attracted by the cash.

Before we give Newsom a free ride to the mayor's office, maybe we need to evaluate whether his plan will actually make a difference or whether it will just create more anger directed to those less fortunate than ourselves.

Bill Wilson
San Francisco

No respect for homophobe

This is in response to the letter "She won't be going to Pride" [Mailstrom, February 27]. I would like to thank Miss Holmes for expressing her views. Needless to say, I do not agree.

Miss Holmes writes that "God made man for woman and woman for man and not man for man and woman for woman, okay!" This is a variation of the "God created Adam and Eve, not Adam and Steve" cliché. "And God created man in His image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them" (Genesis 1:27 JPS). "...The Lord God formed man from the dust of the earth. He blew into his nostrils the breath of life, and man became a living being" (Genesis 2:7 JPS).

Miss Holmes writes "I ain't got no respect or love for a faggot or dyke." The cliché is "Love the sinner, hate the sin." As Jesus said, to "forgive us the wrong we have done, as we have forgiven those who have wronged us" (Matthew 9:12 REB).

I forgive Miss Holmes for being someone who deserves no respect.

Robert V. Wood
San Francisco

Putting out fire with gasoline

While the cloak and dagger members of our administration were heralding the capture of al Qaeda chief Khalid Shaikh Mohammed in Pakistan, the Israeli army entered another Palestinian refugee camp with tanks, bulldozers, and explosives razing more homes in the search for suspected members of Hamas. Without a trial by a jury of their peers or even fair warning, the houses of family members of an accused terrorist are demolished and during many of these altercations civilians who were unable to escape were brutally killed. So, while the White House is touting Khalid's capture as proof that the war on terrorism is working, the reality is that our government's inability, or should I say, the lack of desire to broker a peace between the Palestinians and the Israelis will ensure the war on terrorism is never won any time soon.

For the last three weeks the Israeli army has stepped up incursions in the Gaza Strip leaving more than 80 Palestinians dead. Some recent victims were a pregnant woman and two teenage boys. The woman was killed when a wall in her bedroom collapsed on her as a result of explosions the Israelis detonated to destroy the house next door of an alleged Hamas leader. She did not die right away, but because of the military curfew neighbors could not come to her aid. The U.S. media covered the incident and made no mention of the fact she was an innocent victim of an intentional act of aggression. Two days later however, when a suicide bomber blew himself up and killed 15 Israeli students in Haifa, the U.S. press and the Israeli government immediately called the attack an atrocity and the 15 victims of course were innocent. Addressing the incident, White House spokesman Ari Fleischer said "the president condemns in the strongest terms today's attack on the innocent in Israel." Why did the White House not make the same condemnation about the loss of life in Gaza a few days earlier? Ari Fleischer then went on to add "We will continue to pursue the path of peace in the Middle East." This of course while we amass more than 200,000 troops to begin Armageddon in Iraq.

The hypocrisy of the Bush administration's foreign policy knows no bounds. Both sides of the Middle East conflict are guilty of using terrorism against the other yet our government calls Israel, the only democracy in the Middle East, a model society. Whatever democratic values Israel supports they are certainly never applied to Palestinians living in the occupied territories. Until we stop sanctioning state sponsored terrorism we will continue to do nothing more than pour gasoline on the fire.

Vincent Pietromartire
Victor Valdiviezo
San Francisco

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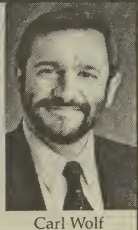
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Life under the big top

by Gwendolyn Ann Smith

I might refer to myself as a "Big Tent" transgendered woman.

This would have very little to do with my dress size; it's a term that comes out of politics, offering the belief that one can have enough room in a platform for people of just about all viewpoints.

You see, I think that there is room for a large, diverse transgender community, one that can build bridges wherever there is a common ground. I just love the idea of a community where everyone can find a place.

Part of that probably comes out of my own experience, having been a young transperson once, trying to find out where I fit in the world of transgenderism, only to find that there were only two choices being presented at the local support groups, and neither fit all that well.

I could be a cross-dresser, which to this group, was the de facto standard, or I could be a transsexual, which had any number of absolute requirements.

You had to be pretty, you had to be feminine, and you had to be straight (that is, like men). I didn't fit at least one of those categories, yet I also didn't fit the norms or cross-dressing. That involved being straight (that is, like women) and being inordinately interested in feminine attire.

You will note, of course, that none of the above were ever being applied to female-to-males in any way. To this group, you may as well have been discussing extra terrestrials to talk of FTMs.

At any rate, there was no room for being in some other space, or even for questioning where you might fit. The day I suggested I might actually be transsexual was the last day I attended that group: I was told in no uncertain terms that I could not be a transsexual.

Had I thought of it, I might have replied with, "My body is not a democracy: you don't get a vote."

I would have rather been given the option to explore and — should I have decided that was not the path for me — been welcomed to look for other answers.

It was around that same time that I first heard the term "transgender." That opened up any number of possibilities, especially when a friend defined it as referring to "transgressing" gender. I took it in



Christine Smith

a slightly different track, defining it as "transcending" gender.

I actually went a little longer on that, saying something like, "transcending the gender one was assigned at birth." A decade later, and I still am fond of the sound of that.

I especially like — you guessed it — the largeness of it. The more rigid the gender definition is, the easier it is to pass beyond the limits of it.

Transmissions

One can sculpt the body with the scalpel and the hor-

mone, change one's legal gender, and live life beyond the bounds of whatever gender category you were put in at birth. But if a gender is defined far more rigidly — a man should never have long hair or an earring, or a woman should be fond of makeup and cross their legs "just so" — then it becomes far easier to surpass those gender norms.

I've even talked before in this column on how the very act of living with someone of the same birth gender as you can be seen as an act that transcends gender. Why, you could be soaking your nails in transgender right now!

That's the big tent.

We can all find a commonality in this, from the gender queer who is pushing every ever-living boundary of gender that is out there waiting to be pushed to folks who might otherwise be mistaken for being as dry as toast when it comes to transgender. One could take it so far that those who are not transcending gender in some way are nearly unique.

That is not without its problems, however. In a broad definition, it does become far harder to get action done. You end up bogging down in a set of rapidly diverse needs and desires. More than this, there are more than a few people who would not want

to be under such a big tent. The man who happens to have one ear pierced may not want to stand arm in arm with someone far more involved with transcending gender norms. Even some factions of the more established transgender community may be uncomfortable — even hostile — to other portions. Never mind the long standing schisms between some in the larger gay and lesbian community and some amongst the transgender spectrum.

Some simply prefer to define themselves as what they are not, rather than trying to look at what they are, or attempting to look for what they may have in common with others. That sort of philosophy just seems limiting to me: the more you cut away, the less you are left with.

So maybe it is a need to focus on the big picture. It is a small part of why I focus so much of my energy on issues of antitransgender violence and murder. This is an issue that has taken the lives of all stripes of transgendered people, as well as folks who would not themselves identify with the term, but were still judged as outside their gender norms.

There are other battles, such as equal rights in housing or employment. If rights are secured for someone pushing hard at the boundaries of gender, then it becomes that much easier for someone only slightly edging against a gender norm to be secure in the workplace.

It's the big tent, and there are issues under the big top that affect every member of this three-ring circus. ▼

Gwen Smith wrote this column without the use of a safety net. She can be found on the Web in Gay.com's "Transgender Gazebo," and at www.gwensmith.com.

TG groups to unite at LGBT center Sat.

by Cynthia Laird

The LGBT Community Center's transgender steering committee will host a meeting for a wide range of transgender groups this Saturday, March 22.

Billed as "Coming Together Under the Umbrella," the group in-

cludes a variety of genders and experiences, organizers said, adding that "everyone's gender is unique."

During the meeting, members of the trans communities and allies will work to build community and understanding. The event is being sponsored by the steering committee in conjunction with FTM International, Transgender

San Francisco, United Genders of the Universe, and the community center. Refreshments will be provided. Admission is free, though donations will be accepted to support future events.

The meeting takes place in the Ceremonial Room of the center, located at 1800 Market Street, starting at 7 p.m. ▼

Pacific Center

◀ page 5

from the city of Berkeley and the Evelyn and Walter Haas Jr. Fund, the Pacific Center plans to open a new office; grants have covered the initial study and the follow-up strategic planning for the move.

Additionally, the Haas Jr. Fund has awarded the center a grant to help expand its diversity.

"So we've got some major projects that are well funded," said Gurucharri. "We're a little off-center right now, but we'll be applying for some more grants. One thing I knew we couldn't do was run an organization that was

spending more money than it has."

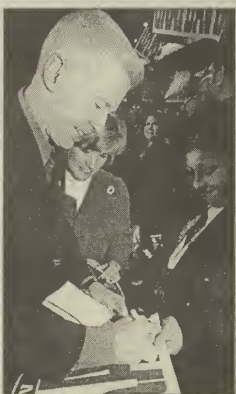
The community can help by sending donations; a form is available online at www.pacificcenter.org. Volunteers are also needed for the Pacific Center's regular programs, and for the upcoming 30th anniversary events; call (510) 548-8283 for more information. ▼

POLITICS

State doesn't need recall vote on Davis

by Wayne Friday

No one would disagree that California Governor **Gray Davis** is a pretty unpopular guy these days. Indeed, the Democratic governor wasn't much more popular back in November when he barely won re-election despite spending more than \$30 million and having the benefit of an inept, right-wing, unqualified Republican opponent. And that was before Davis announced his budget-cutting plans that cut deeply into public schools, state medical plans, and local municipal services, in particular reducing millions of state money to San Francisco County.



Governor Davis greeted well-wishers at last weekend's Democratic Party convention.

Despite Davis's sagging popularity, however, he was re-elected and is entitled to serve out his four-year term. I see the current effort to recall him as not only a waste of money and energy, but also a devious scheme for California Republicans to have yet another chance at winning the governor's office. Instead of letting California lawmakers and residents focus on getting the state out of its historic budget crisis, disgruntled Republicans, led by **Ted Costa**, a conservative Davis-hater from Citrus Heights, are attempting to garner 900,000 signatures to put a recall of Davis on the ballot.

Davis might not be the most popular politician in the state, but he did win re-election only a few months ago and the recall effort is nothing more than a political misuse of the state's recall process, which is designed to give voters a recourse to remove a politician whose malfeasance justified such removal. That is surely not the case with Davis. Disappointed Republicans and some Green Party members have already had their shot at Davis and they lost; the GOP couldn't even hold the lone statewide constitutional office they held before last fall's elections.

Costa and his Republican cohorts would do well by helping solve the state's budget mess, a problem that will require some bipartisan cooperation, rather than the recall attempt—a wasteful and deceitful way of getting yet another shot at electing a Republican governor via an undeserved and nonproductive political play on the November ballot.

Politics and people

California Democrats met at their convention this past weekend

in Sacramento to hear a parade of presidential wannabes (Senator **Joe Lieberman** (Connecticut) and Representative **Richard Gephardt** (Missouri) had "other commitments") and Senator **John Kerry** (Massachusetts) seems to be somewhat of a front-runner at the moment. California Republicans, meanwhile, spent the time announcing they had found the party's highest-ranking elected state official. The state GOP was shut out in statewide races last November, so that leaves **Claude Parrish**, who represents parts of Southern California on the state Board of Equalization, as the top elected Republican. Each of the four elected members (the state controller automatically becomes the fifth member) represents 9 million residents and is technically considered a "constitutional officer."

Representative **Barney Frank** (D-Massachusetts) has formally endorsed his fellow Bay State Democrat, Senator John Kerry, for president and there is plenty of early talk back east that Frank could well become the nation's first openly gay elected U.S. senator.

When Supervisor **Bevan Dufty** was in Washington last week with other supes attending the American Public Transit Association legislative conference trying to round up some federal money for Muni, some of Dufty's friends and colleagues from the days he worked on Capitol Hill threw a party for him to celebrate his being elected supervisor. More than 100 of the supe's friends showed up, including six Democratic House members. During a meeting with House Democratic leader **Nancy Pelosi** (D-San Francisco), Dufty, who still has plenty of clout from working 15 years in D.C., discovered what a small town the nation's capital is: "I had worked with Pelosi's two top staffers, **George Crawford** and **George Kudanis** during my Hill days and Rep. Pelosi's press secretary, **Brendan Daly**, was once spokesperson to openly gay Congressman **Garry Studds**," Dufty said.

Philip Atkinson, 20, of San Francisco, was sentenced last week to felony probation for three years and was ordered to enroll in anger management and sensitivity training for vandalizing the National AIDS Memorial Grove in Golden Gate Park last year. Atkinson pleaded guilty to a felony count of malicious mischief and no contest to a hate crime after spray-painting antigay graffiti on the memorial last June; he must also complete 150 hours of community service, clean the memorial eight times a year, and write a letter of apology to the custodians of the memorial.

Secretary of State **Kevin Shelley** is calling for an investigation by the state's Fair Political Practices Commission into nearly \$1 million in hidden campaign donations from a Los Angeles insurance company to the state Republican Party and county GOP committees in the closing days of last November's election. The state GOP picked up a couple of Assembly seats and one state Senate seat. Half a dozen Republican candidates who received the money

won their races.

Damn, there goes the planned house on Fire Island: A jury's recent award of \$11.7 million to **Charles Bell**, a former hotel manager who allegedly was fired by controversial hotel owner **Leona Helmsley** because he is gay, was reduced last week to \$554,000 by a New York State Supreme Court justice.

A judge in Newton, New Jersey ruled last week that two lesbians can be listed on the birth certificate of the baby they're expecting in May. Officials said it was the first time in the state that two women who have links with a fetus tried to get on the birth certificate; one woman is carrying the child and her partner provided the egg.

One of my long-time media friends, columnist **Warren Hinckle**, writes in the *Independent* that he thinks District Attorney **Terence Hallinan** can still be re-elected in November despite his "mentally embarrassing grand jury imbroglio," but I know a few Hall of Justice watchers who would place money on that one, **Warren (Kamala Harris) looking better everyday**.

Incidentally, this **Gavin Newsom-Susan Leal-Angela Alioto-Tom Ammiano** race for mayor is already getting pretty interesting, isn't it?

Then there's **Jim Reid**, who keeps insisting that for some reason I "owe" him an apology. Yeah, I got the message Mr. Reid, but don't try holding your breath until I apologize for anything.

Singer/actress **Rita Moreno** will entertain at a fundraiser for California Alliance for Pride and Equality in Oakland on April 8; CAPE does great work and since its founding in 1998, has helped lead California from a state with virtually no civil rights protections for its LGBT citizens to a state with some of the strongest civil rights for LGBTs in the country (call **Michael Colbruno** @ 510-835-5900 for tix and info).

More celeb news: Hollywood director and key Democratic activist **Rob Reiner** last week endorsed former Vermont Governor **Howard Dean** for president. Reiner and fellow actor **Martin Sheen** made it clear that Dean's active opposition to an American-led war on Iraq earned their support as well as that of others in Hollywood, a place that has become an all-important source of cash for the Democratic Party.

In Massachusetts, a group of state lawmakers is trying to ban same-sex marriages with a constitutional amendment, a move that would trump any effort by the state's highest court to allow the marriages. The court, the Supreme Judicial Court, agreed last week to decide the issue. Speaker **Thomas Finneran**, a Democrat, said that if the court found a legal right for gays to marry, he would support an amendment defining marriage as the union of a man and a woman.

Finally, on a personal note, thanks to the friends (you know who you are) who sent some pretty nice personal messages recently.

And how was your week? ▼



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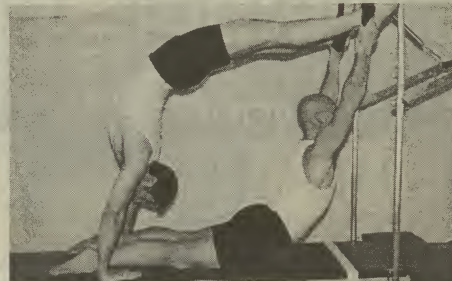


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Private eyes

by Jane Warner

800 block of Castro, March 8, 2:26 p.m.: Officers responded to a call of a garage burglary in progress. The caller described the suspect as a white male with dark hair, wearing a blue shirt and riding a blue bicycle. As officers approached Sanchez at 18th Street, they saw a man riding a blue bicycle fitting the description of the suspect. Officers yelled for the man to stop and he pulled over on the 400 block of Sanchez. The suspect was carrying a shopping bag full of goods and a duffel bag. Inside the duffel bag were bolt cutters and two screwdrivers. Three witnesses told police they saw the suspect riding his bicycle up and down the street looking into garages. He then entered an open garage, and when he exited, witnesses reported, he was carrying a shopping bag. The 34-year-old suspect was taken to Mission Station and booked for burglary,

possession of stolen goods, and possession of burglary tools. A computer check revealed he had been arrested for burglary charges six times previously; the latest arrest was two months ago.

Smooth operator

500 block of Dolores, March 8, 8:14 a.m.: A 911 dispatcher received an anonymous call from a pay phone on the 500 block of Dolores stating that an officer was down. Several units rushed to the area searching for an injured officer. One of the officers who responded recognized a man standing near the pay phone as someone who had been arrested before for false reporting.

The officer detained the suspect, who spontaneously told him, "I work for the FBI and I protect the president." The officer transported the suspect to Mission Station as other officers searched the area an injured officer. After about 20 minutes with negative results, the search was terminated. Once at the

station, the officer spoke to the 911 dispatcher who said she would be able to recognize the caller's voice. The suspect spoke to the dispatcher, who made a positive identification. The 50-year-old suspect, who had been arrested 22 times in the past three years for making false 911 calls, was taken to San Francisco General Hospital for evaluation and treatment.

Band practice

Anytime Cashing, 2300 Market Street, March 10, 11 a.m.: A man came into a check cashing business and asked the manager if he could cash a check for \$400. The manager looked at the check and saw it was issued from the San Francisco Sheriff's Department Prisoner Trust Fund. When the manager asked the man for identification, he said he didn't have any but pulled out a county jail wrist band with his name on it and asked, "Will this do?" Suspicious, the man called the Sheriff's Department, which confirmed that the check was counterfeit. When the manager informed the man of the forgery, the suspect — described as a white male in his 20s — grabbed the check and his wrist band and ran out the door



Police Commission starts investigation process

by Cynthia Laird

The San Francisco Police Commission on Tuesday, March 18, unanimously approved a motion to have Deputy Chief Heather Fong develop a list of potential outside individuals to investigate a street brawl involving three off-duty cops and the department's subsequent handling of the matter.

The November 20, 2002 incident on Union Street involving three rookie officers has spiraled out of control as they and several high-ranking officers were indicted by a San Francisco grand jury last month. The off-duty officers — Alex Fagan Jr., Matthew Tonsing, and David Lee — were indicted on assault charges. Top department personnel were indicted on obstruction of justice charges stemming from the department's handling of the matter. All the officers have pleaded not guilty to the charges. Indictments against Chief Earl Sanders and Alex Fagan Sr. were dropped last week by District Attorney Terence Hallinan. Sanders remains out on paid medical leave; Fagan Sr. returned to work on March 12 and is now acting police chief.

Under the motion approved by commissioners Tuesday, Fong will also come up with a budget for the outside investigation.

"I think it's a good idea. It's the way to go," Police Commissioner Wayne Friday told the *Bay Area Reporter*. Friday, who writes a political column for the newspaper, declined to comment further, except to say that he has every confidence in Fong's ability to develop the list of outsiders. ▼

where he was met by a woman wearing a black dress. The pair fled in an unknown direction. The manager, however, had photo-

copied the man's wristband and was able to provide responding police with the suspect's photo, name, date of birth, and jail number. ▼

Araujo murder

◀ page 1

untary manslaughter midway through the proceedings and testified against his former friends in exchange for an 11-year prison term.

Witnesses said that Merel and Magidson talked of having had

sex with Araujo and acted out of rage at being deceived when they discovered that Araujo, whom they thought was a girl, was biologically male.

"I can't be gay, I can't be fucking gay," Merel reportedly said before he began the approximately two-hour series of beatings and abuse that ended in Araujo's

death. According to prosecutors, the night ended in a trip by the four — in Magidson's pickup truck with Araujo's body in the bed — to a remote campground in the Sierra, where they buried her in a two-foot deep rocky grave.

The defendants face terms of 29 years to life in state prison, including the hate crime enhance-

ment, if convicted.

In the last days of the hearing, Nabors was cross-examined by defense attorneys who tried to point out inconsistencies in his testimony.

In his original statements to police Nabors had not mentioned Cazares' involvement at all, wanting, he said, "as few people to go down as possible."

The first time he mentioned Cazares' alleged role was in a letter from the Santa Rita Prison Farm to his girlfriend — in which he tried to establish his own innocence in the events.

"I never laid a hand on that stupid, lying, manipulating, drug-addicted son of a bitch," Nabors wrote.

Nabors also admitted that his initial statements to police had contained many lies. In an October 10 interview with police, before he led them to the body on October 17, Nabors had said, "Where's Lida? I don't know. God's honest truth. I don't know. I'd take a polygraph."

Araujo was born Edward, often called herself Gwen, but was known to the alleged murderers only as a girl named Lida.

"You're pretty articulate, you bring God into it. That makes you a successful liar," Serra jabbed at Nabors while he was on the witness stand.

"When I was agnostic, yes," Nabors said.

At the hearing, Nabors admitted to lying in the letter and said that he had made up portions of the explanation to his girlfriend, even while saying, "I've accepted Jesus Christ as my savior," after he was imprisoned.

"You were seeking to deceive her, while you were saying you'd found the Lord?" Serra insisted.

"That's about as bad as you can make it sound," Nabors responded.

Nabors' testimony is also at odds with that of another witness, Nicole Brown, who was present in the house before the murder. She said that Magidson and Cazares had, in the midst of the beating, gone to get shovels from Cazares' parents' home — with the plan of burying Araujo's body. Nabors said it was he and Cazares who went.

Nabors provided details of how the two used cigarette lighters to light up the garden shed at Cazares' house where they got the

shovels, and a prefabricating of events to come.

While on the short drive to Cazares' house Nabors claimed Cazares said, "They're going to kill her."

In Nabors' cross-examination, new details of the killing emerged.

He revealed a conversation that he and Cazares had in the truck on the way back from burying Araujo. "Jason told me that Lida had offered him a couple grand to get her out of the house," Nabors said from the stand. "He didn't say if he said yes or no, but obviously the answer was no."

He said that plaintive offer and the plea, "Please, I've got a family," were the only words Araujo spoke after being revealed as biologically male.

He also said that Araujo was, after being beaten, made to sit on the sofa of the Merel house and obey orders.

"Put your hands on your nuts," Nabors said one of the group said. Under questioning from Serra, Nabors added, "It was just a command she was given. It was a derogatory thing."

Nabors testified that Cazares had attempted to stop the murder three times, twice while Magidson was allegedly choking Araujo, shouting, "No, no, no, dude, I'm going to sock you if you don't let go."

At a break in the testimony, Araujo's mother, Sylvia Guerrero, who had sat through most of the proceedings, said that regardless of what defense Cazares may mount alleging that he tried to stop the murder, he is still guilty.

"No one in that house saved Gwen," Guerrero said. "No one called 911. Trying is one thing. Doing is another."

Nabors said that he was not acting out of homophobia, but out of revenge for being deceived by the transgender teen.


"You're not homophobic, are you?" Serra asked him.

"No," Nabors responded, and then, later in the cross-examination, revealed another detail from the trip back from burying the body.

He said that Merel had tried to comfort Magidson, while riding in the truck back to Newark.

"Don't worry," Nabors claimed Merel said. "We're not gay dude, we didn't know." ▼

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Michael Savage talks with the B.A.R.

by Ed Walsh

Michael Savage didn't know what to think when a lesbian cop pulled him over in San Francisco earlier this month.

The conservative radio talk show host — the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation's public enemy number one — was on a shoot for his new MSNBC show.

The officer didn't flag Savage down to give him a ticket, but to ask him to autograph her copy of his best-selling book, *The Savage Nation*. The cop had it with her.

"She said I really back you. We love you," Savage told the *Bay Area Reporter*. Noting the irony of being stopped in the street by a lesbian fan, Savage rhetorically asked her: "Why don't you tell someone that?"

Savage since hired the officer to be his bodyguard for the show and used the footage of her pulling him over in the show's opening.

Savage's book has topped the *New York Times* bestseller list five times since it was published in January. This week, it's the second best seller, ironically just behind a book by ultra liberal Michael Moore.

Savage's San Francisco-based radio program is heard on more than 300 radio stations. The *Boston Globe* called him "arguably the media's hottest commodity." His hourlong MSNBC Saturday afternoon show debuted to mixed reviews two weeks ago.

Savage is under fire not only from GLAAD but from the Human Rights Campaign and from women's rights organizations for what the groups allege are his antigay and anti-women comments.

In an exclusive LGBT media interview with B.A.R. last week, Savage told his side of the story.

The talk show host insisted he's not antigay and plans to vigorously fight plans by activists to yank his MSNBC show off the air. He said he's not afraid of the threat.

"They'll never force me off the air because for every advertiser they may pick off, there are several in the wings that want to be on my show," he said. "And secondly, they are violating the law, and I have to leave that for my lawyer. It's not the 1960s, where groups have simply said we're going to boycott. The laws have changed in over 30 years. There's been a more sophisticated view of what this really means, when you start interfering with trade."

"There is a big difference between disliking someone than voicing that opposition and targeting their business. I hate to make this analogy, but I will. When the Nazi's didn't like Jews in Germany, they went around and wrote 'Jude' on their stores and told people not to buy in the Jewish store. Don't they understand that they are doing the same thing to me? I don't know how the gay community can permit this."

'Amazingly homophobic'

One of Savage's most vocal critics, popular liberal radio talk show host Bernie Ward, believes the gay community has been too easy on Savage. Ward is a frequent guest pundit on a number of national cable TV shows and hosts



Talk show host Michael Savage

his own show on KGO.

Ward calls Savage "amazingly homophobic" and questions why the gay community hasn't come out as strongly against Savage as it did against radio talk show host Dr. Laura Schlessinger when she began her TV talk show.

"Is the gay community misogynistic?" Ward asked his radio audience. "How come there hasn't been a similar move against Weiner? He makes Dr. Laura look like Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farms."

Ward most often refers to Savage as "The Weiner," a reference to Savage's pre-radio name, Michael Weiner. Ward added that he thinks Savage is a hypocrite for demanding his right to free speech while trying to silence activists who are pressuring MSNBC to drop his show.

"Bullshit," Savage responded. "When have I targeted people and their advertisers? Tell me when I've done that. Look, Bernie Ward's a fat failure in radio and he's just jealous of my success. Everyone knows that but you would think that in the same business would understand that by supporting this, he could be next."

Savage insisted that bringing legal action against GLAAD and other groups trying to get his MSNBC off the air is strictly a defensive move.

"Who threw the first stone?" Savage said. "They went after my advertisers. Where's the hypocrisy in defending yourself against that kind of slanderous assault upon your business?"

GLAAD's news media director, Cathy Renna, suggested in a press release that Savage's hyperbolic comments against GLAAD on his radio show were "the product of a seriously disturbed individual."

Wrote Renna: "After listening to his outbursts, I can't imagine why anyone at a respectable news network would offer a program to someone like that."

Gay-friendly show?

Savage insists he's not antigay and that his show is gay-friendly. He noted that he was one of the few commentators after 9/11 that consistently and repeatedly echoed that the terrorists and the Taliban regime that harbored them were homophobic.

"They were violently antigay," he explained.

"They collapsed walls on homosexuals," Savage again reminded viewers of his MSNBC show last weekend.

Savage believes that for the

most part his gay supporters, like his lesbian cop fan, have been largely hidden by the media.

"I think that this is typical of minority communities in general," Savage said. "I have a lot of black fans. But they're never heard from. The media never shows them. I know I have a lot of Hispanic fans but they're never heard from either. There is an orientation in the media that is very leftist and if anyone in the minority community doesn't reflect that bias, they're persona non grata or disappear. That's the way it works."

After the assassination of Dutch politician Pim Fortuyn, Savage chastised the mainstream press on his radio show for virtually ignoring the fact that Fortuyn was gay.

"He was gay and he was also anti-illegal immigration and it didn't work for the media because there was no two-legged bad, four-legged good, in other words, they couldn't turn it into a simple agenda-driven story. It was a more complicated story. He was a right-wing gay man and because he was a right-wing gay man he suddenly wasn't even gay. If you know what I mean."

Savage said the media also doesn't take into account that his persona attracts gay listeners.

"Here's my analysis, from a hetero's point of view, the gay community is a community that likes wit, humor, fast minds, — okay, this is my bias, maybe I'm wrong — is easily bored, and is very cynical. And I represent all of them. I'm just like that mentally."

Savage told the B.A.R. that one of his favorite radio show guests was columnist Camille Paglia whom Savage calls his "favorite lesbian."

"I loved her," Savage explained. "Why? Because she was bright, very quick witted, and wasn't stuck with a typical left-wing agenda."

Savage uses the term "perverts" often in his book and talk show. When asked if he considered gays perverts, he responded: "I use the word perverts in a much more generic way. I mean the people who've perverted the Constitution. When I say the perverts in the ACLU, I mean those who have perverted the whole meaning of liberty and whole meaning of freedom and the whole meaning of law."

When asked whether someone can be gay and not perverted Savage answered: "I think the correct term would be deviant. And that's the statistical term that refers to the norm. ... And I'm not going to sit here and prejudge an entire community. I don't know what people do. But I do know that there are groups that pervert the Constitution. And I believe the radical left does it all the time, the ACLU."

Arguably Savage's most inflammatory quote was that the "gay and lesbian Mafia wants our children." When asked by B.A.R. if he believed that gays recruit children, Savage responded: "I think that some do, I think that most don't. I think there's militancy within all minority groups. And a militancy within all groups. I think there's a militant faction within the gay community that you see with GLAAD that has tar-

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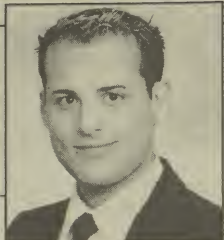
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The Planning Council usually meets the fourth Monday of each month from 4:30 to 7:30 P.M. in the Mayor's Conference Room (Room 201), San Francisco City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett (on Van Ness Avenue, between Grove and McAllister Streets.)

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STOP AIDS PROJECT

Lawyers optimistic as Texas sodomy case nears hearing before high court

by Bob Roehr

Gay and lesbian leaders are optimistic that the U.S. Supreme Court will strike down the Texas same-sex sodomy law before it adjourns for the summer. That assessment came in a telephone briefing for reporters on March 13, in preparation for oral arguments in the case that will be held on March 26.

"It's a good time for us to get another positive ruling [on a gay issue] and shore up the Romer case" that struck down Colorado's antigay Amendment 2 in 1996, said Ruth Harlow. She is legal director of Lambda Legal Defense & Education Fund, the gay advocacy group that has brought forward the case known as *Lawrence v. Texas*.

"I don't believe that the court can make the same mistake that it

did in *Bowers v. Hardwick*," she said. In that notorious 1986 decision, the court ruled 5-4 that consenting adults have no constitutional right to private homosexual conduct.

Thus the court ruled that states may enact sodomy laws. Harlow believes the court will reverse that decision.

This is likely to be the last gay case before the court before one or possibly several of its members are replaced through retirement or death. Some observers fear that justices appointed by President Bush might be less sympathetic to gay issues.

The Texas case began in 1998 when police, responding to what ultimately turned out to be a false "weapons disturbance" report by a neighbor, entered the apartment of John G. Lawrence in the Houston suburbs. They didn't find any weapons but they did observe Lawrence and Tyron Garner engaging in sex. The pair were arrested for violating the state law that prohibits sodomy between members of the same sex, but not between people of the opposite sex. They were held overnight in jail, convicted, and each fined \$200.

The case rattled around the Texas legal system. A panel of judges on the Texas Court of Appeals declared the law unconstitutional on grounds of equal protection and privacy, but the full court reversed that on a vote of 7-



Attorney Ruth Harlow

2. They ruled that the law "advances a legitimate state interest, namely preserving public morals." The court at the next level of appeals eventually declined to accept the case.

Harlow said they are pursuing two basic arguments before the U.S. Supreme Court. The first is the liberty or right to privacy argument, simply that "the government does not belong in anyone's bedroom" in matters between consenting adults.

Second is the equal protection argument. The Texas law prohibits same-sex but not opposite sex sodomy. In its briefs, Texas has ar-

gued that it is trying to regulate all sexual practices outside of marriage, to protect marriage. Lambda can find no rational basis for such government intervention.

The more pernicious aspect of the remaining sodomy laws is not that gays and lesbians are being rounded up and prosecuted in large number — they are not; prosecutions are rare — but that it criminalizes a class of people presumed to engage in such practices. That in turn is used to deny gays equal justice in a spectrum of areas from family law to employment.

Harlow said that states "gradually, over time, have abandoned efforts to be overtly homophobic." As Lambda has argued in its briefs, beginning in 1961, more than half the state legislatures have repealed their sodomy laws; state courts have struck down another 11; and only 13 states still have sodomy laws on the books. The movement has all been in one direction.

Michael Adams, Lambda's director of education and public affairs, said that some of the state

court decisions, based upon state constitutions, "have been especially sweeping." The most recent decision, in Arkansas in 2002, defined the right to privacy with that state document for the first time, for all citizens of that state.

"We are heartened that a number of mainstream and expert groups" have filed briefs in support of their position, while only groups on the far right have supported the Texas position, Harlow said.

She was pleased, but not surprised, that the Bush administration did not file a brief in this case. Furthermore, the Texas attorney general had the option of stepping in to assume prosecution of this case, but declined to do so; a county attorney is handling it. "Nobody aside from the far right wants to touch it."

Paul M. Smith will argue Lambda's case before the court. He is an openly gay man who heads up the appellate section of Jenner & Block, a leading Washington, D.C. law firm. He has argued numerous cases before the Supreme Court. ▼

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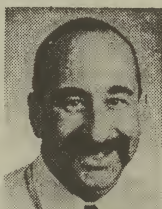
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Democrat rivals at home team up statewide

by Matthew S. Bajko

Bitter rivals just four months ago when they squared off in the District 8 supervisors race supporting different candidates, political operatives Paul Hogan and Debra Walker now find themselves working side by side, as well as joining the team of the same candidate.

Past leaders of San Francisco's two opposing gay Democratic clubs, Hogan and Walker have left their old rivalries behind and stepped into new leadership roles at the state level. Posts where they will be working hand in hand to elect Democratic candidates to state seats, as well as helping the party win back Congress and the White House from Republicans in 2004.

Over the weekend, at the state Democratic Party convention, Hogan became the Northern California co-chair of the lesbian and gay caucus within the state party and Walker became Northern California vice chair. While they may first appear to be strange bedfellows, in politics apparent adversaries often can be close friends.

"Paul and my relationship has always been good. Elections can get in the way and we have different candidates which is always awkward. But I love working with Paul," said Walker.

As the immediate past president of the Harvey Milk LGBT Democratic Club, Walker many times over the years has taken contrary stands in local political fights than Hogan, a past leader of



Caucus co-chair Paul Hogan and vice chair Debra Walker

the Alice B. Toklas LGBT Democratic Club. Despite that, she said it will not impinge on their ability to work together at the state level.

"I think it is going to be great," she said.

While they may clash here in San Francisco, Walker said the two usually see eye to eye when it comes to state and national issues. And in the end, no matter who they may be supporting, they share one common goal - to elect Democrats.

"Once you step away from San Francisco and you look at the big picture, we all have the same vision, especially around antiwar stuff and reproductive rights. All of those things are becoming really vitally important right now," said Walker. "We have to work on the presidential elections and I think a lot of us are going to be on the same page. Hopefully, we can learn how to be on the same page for state and national elections even if we have different candidates locally."

The two already agree on who

they would like to see win the Democratic Party's nomination for president. Even before former Vermont Governor Howard Dean electrified the audience at the convention Saturday, Hogan and Walker had signed on to his camp.

"They all, obviously being Democrats, make it a point to speak to our issues, but Dean has been the most in the news around LGBT issues," Hogan said of the presidential hopefuls. "He makes it a point to bring that up pro-actively and not hide from that. I am sure each one would be fine on our issues, but Dean seems to be out in front."

While Dean, who as governor signed into law the nation's only civil unions bill, has made his support for gay rights a central theme of his campaign, Hogan said that is only partly why he has decided to support him. Hogan cited Dean's support for universal health care and his outspokenness against war with Iraq as other factors.

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Demo confab

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many booed when he got to the part of his speech that discussed domestic defense and national security.

"I believe that Saddam Hussein is a serious threat and he must be disarmed, including with military force if necessary," he said.

Shouts of "No war" rang in the convention hall.

Edwards described his background as an attorney, fighting against large corporations for average Americans.

"You know, the president has attacked me over and over because I spent 20 years fighting for victims, children, and families against powerful opposition. So let me be as clear as I can about this: I am proud of my career. I am proud of the families I represented. I am proud of the cases I won."

"So, Mr. President, if you want

to talk about the insiders you've fought for versus the kids and families I've fought for, then all I have to say is: Mr. President, bring it on!"

Edwards did not mention gays or lesbians during his remarks.

Kerry addressed the convention Friday night. He talked about his military service in Vietnam, and the need for better diplomacy.

"I'm running for president of the United States because I believe we need a regime change here at home," he said.

Regarding the pending war in Iraq, Kerry said that the United States needs to "start to make friends on the planet. I also know what the words 'last resort' mean. The United States [should not] go to war without legitimacy. The United States of America should never go to war because we want to. We go to war because we have to."

Kerry told the B.A.R. in a brief interview that he supports civil unions and domestic partnership.

Other candidates

The Reverend Al Sharpton, another Democratic presidential candidate, also revved up the crowd with his opposition to war against Iraq, stating that the administration is "using young people to send to Iraq to fight a war that is not necessary."

"We can't be the opposition party if we're afraid to oppose what's wrong," Sharpton said.

Sharpton stated he supports equal rights for gays and lesbians. "It's time for the Christian right to meet the right Christians," he said.

"I have said over and over

again that I support civil unions and am prepared, even if I'm not elected, as a minister, to accommodate them," Sharpton said during a press availability following his speech.

Presidential candidate and former Illinois Senator Carol Moseley Braun marched with peace activists during a march in Sacramento Saturday that ended at the convention center. She spoke with reporters, saying war against Iraq is a misguided position.

Moseley Braun said she's opposed to "Don't Ask, Don't Tell," the military's antigay policy. "I think it's stupid. I guess it's impolitic to say so, but I do."

Ohio Representative Dennis Kucinich, another presidential candidate, is also strongly opposed to war in Iraq. He addressed the convention last Sunday, just as President Bush announced from a summit in the Azores that he would make one last attempt to win support for the war in the United Nations. That effort failed Monday, and Bush gave Saddam Hussein 48 hours to leave Iraq or face military action.

Three announced Democratic presidential candidates did not attend the convention. Senator Joseph Lieberman (Connecticut) and Representative Richard Gephardt (Missouri) cited scheduling conflicts. Lieberman did send a video message that was booed by delegates. Florida Senator Bob Graham did not attend as he is recovering from heart surgery. ▼

Reporter Joe Dignan contributed to this story.

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COMMUNITY NEWS

FDA approves Fuzeon, AIDS advocates debate response

by Bob Roehr

The Food and Drug Administration approved the sale of Fuzeon on March 13. The anti-HIV drug is the first in a class known as entry inhibitors that block the virus from entering cells. Clinical trials focused on patients who had exhausted other remedies and needed a new option.

The drug is injected twice daily and is being distributed by the pharmaceutical company Roche. While the U.S. price has not yet been announced, it likely will be \$20,000-\$25,000 a year, and must be used in combination with other drugs. That is more than twice as much as the next most costly anti-HIV drug.

"This is an important milestone for patients with resistance

to the currently available drugs for HIV," said Jules Levin, executive director of the National AIDS Treatment Advocacy Project. It offers them new hope, but it should not be thought of as a standard therapy.

The high cost threatens to break the back of struggling state AIDS Drug Assistance Programs that pay for much of the therapy. "It is a tragic state of affairs in drug development when an encouraging breakthrough drug cannot be accessed by the people who need it most," said Daniel Raymond with the AIDS Treatment Activists Coalition.

"All of our efforts on price containment have failed," said Martin Delaney with Project Inform in San Francisco. "No ADAP can afford to just add Fuzeon and almost all have major funding

shortfalls, despite congressional increases in funding, even without discussing Fuzeon.

"For even the most well-off ADAPs to afford it, they will have to either take other things off their formularies or make very strict demands on the patients who apply, perhaps getting them to drop some of the drugs they already are taking. But the problem is, there really is no data to support this strategy yet, more study is needed," Delaney added.

Maryland activist Lynda Dee sits on that state's ADAP advisory board and feels "very strongly" about keeping Fuzeon off of the formulary of drugs that ADAP covers, because of the price. Yet at the same time, she is committed to keeping people alive. For her, whether or not make Fuzeon available through the formulary

poses a serious "moral dilemma."

"The whole question of who really needs the drug is somewhat fuzzy," said Delaney. Several new drugs, either recently or about to be approved, have good activity against multiple drug resistant virus but were not part of the TORO trial that demonstrated the value of Fuzeon. He urged physicians to be cautious in prescribing T-20 "because those decisions will have effects far beyond their individual patients."

San Francisco activist Bill Snow raised other concerns. "As someone who knows that T-20 improved and maybe extended my life, I have a big problem with penalizing the company in any way for developing it."

He argued that the drug was expensive to develop and likely will have a relatively small window

in which to recover those costs before other drugs in the class come along. "Why create such a disincentive for developing novel drugs? The price of T-20 isn't nearly as obscene as the differential between what ADAPs pay pharmaceutical companies and what generic drugs would cost," said Snow.

There are no generic equivalents of Fuzeon and likely never will be.

Paul Davis, with ACT UP/Philadelphia, has begun a letter writing campaign to Roche on its pricing. "You will notice that I've sent you an arm and a leg with this letter," he wrote. "They are plastic parts I removed from my gay Billy doll," symbolic of the cost of Fuzeon for people living with HIV. Others are picking up on the idea. ▼

CAPE expands offices, staff, vision

by Zak Szymanski

With so many gay-related nonprofits facing cutbacks and financial difficulties, it's big news when the state's largest LGBT political lobbying group announces expanded

staff and services.

California Alliance for Pride and Equality has launched a statewide political action committee, a move that allows CAPE to advertise endorsements, provide volunteers, and raise money for candidates who support full equality for LGBT Californians.

CAPE has also just opened three new offices Sacramento, San Francisco, and Los Angeles, strategic locations from which to build a statewide LGBT movement.

Additionally, the board has elected two new co-chairs: former San Francisco Supervisor Leslie Katz and well-known Los Angeles

activist Diane Abbott.

And the CAPE Foundation, which aims to do educational outreach to build alliances and activist networks, has elected Hollywood City Council member John Duran as its president, and brought in its first staff member by hiring Toni Broaddus, former policy director of Californians for Civil Marriage.

"CAPE in the last several months has made a concerted effort to take on and promote issues that are the most important to a large segment of our community," said Geoff Kors, CAPE executive director. "And because of the building of the organization and the successes we've had through candidates we've en-

dorsed, the LGBT community is now in a position to make gains that were unheard of four years ago."

CAPE is also now in a position to take proactive — rather than reactive stances, and has been behind the introduction of key legislation for equality, said Kors.

"For so long our community has been saying, 'No' to antigay bills. Now is our time to say 'Yes.' We're taking control of our agenda."

Be on the lookout for CAPE's series of upcoming town meetings, or go online to engage in mouse pad activism and click your support for pending legislation; CAPE's Web site is www.cal-cape.org. ▼

ARIS

◀ page 1

ty nonprofit that took on ARIS' clients. Health Connections was also supposed to take over Thornton Way Residence, the hospice that closed last Friday, but officials discovered at the last minute that its license was not transferable. All of the Thornton Way clients, said Galvan, have since found new homes, albeit some temporarily. But this crisis, too, said Larson, could have been prevented.

"If people had just looked a little further into the future, we could have transferred the license and taken care of that," he said. Thornton Way provided 24-hour care, medication, and meals to people with end-stage AIDS, and it was "horrible," said Larson, "to see people with severe dementia

who have no family, except for the staff there, be taken away, never to come back."

Larson said he isn't convinced that the city-funded programs, which the board voted to continue, won't face the same fate as Thornton Way. That's because a lot of the city and county funds depended on each other, he said, and now that the county money is gone, "I'm afraid a lot of people might be in jeopardy."

The board is coming together now to "clean up a mess," added Larson, but board members were largely absent when it came to being involved with the organization.

"This isn't just about a lack of donations, or a bad economy," said Larson. "It's about an uninvolved board and an organization that has been top-heavy with administrative costs."

Larson said that for all the agency's administrative positions, the food bank — which serves over 500 clients — has just one full-time staff person.

"When it came down to what we actually do on the front lines," he said, "there just wasn't a lot left."

And in his four years at the food bank, said Larson, not once has he seen a board member stop by.

"A lot of people think the only way for us to move forward," he said, "is for the board to resign."

Phone calls to ARIS for a response were not returned by press time.

A statement on the ARIS Web site outlines the programs that the organization plans to continue, and also asks the community for volunteers, additional board members, and donations.

For more information, visit www.aris.org. ▼

IRV

◀ page 2

porters, you're not going to trash the other candidate," said Haaland.

In effect, the system allows candidates to run as coalitions, and to pool their resources against a single strong candidate like Newsom.

"If one progressive candidate gets knocked out," Kleppner said, "then their votes go to the other progressive candidate."

The mechanics of the plan are that voters will make three choices for each office in ranked order. If no candidate garners more than 50 percent of the vote in the first count, the candidate with the least number of votes would be eliminated and the second choice candidates on their ballots would be counted, and so on, until someone

got over 50 percent.

Kleppner also said that by eliminating the cost of runoffs, the new plan would also reduce the influence of fundraising in campaigns, where Newsom has a big lead.

"Another byproduct would be leveling the playing field," Ammi-ano said. "I look at it as a reform of campaign financing."

P.J. Johnston, Mayor Willie Brown's spokesman, said that Spanjain's charges are ridiculous.

"While Mayor Brown opposed the measure that created it, he has never said it shouldn't be implemented," Johnston said. "If it's feasible to implement, the Department of Elections must try to implement it. The problem is that it's looking more and more like it's not feasible."

And getting the system running is where the problems may develop. The city's current vendor

of election systems, Omaha-based Election Systems and Software, has submitted a system to California Secretary of State Kevin Shelley for approval.

Shelley has rejected ES&S' application as being deficient, saying that only three of the required 26 pieces of documentation were included.

"The system doesn't exist yet, so how in the world are we supposed to test it," said a spokesman for Shelley.

ES&S doesn't have a contract with the city yet, because the funding for ES&S' \$1.5 million proposal has yet to be approved. Board of Supervisors President Matt Gonzalez's office is scheduled to introduce a funding measure on Tuesday, March 25.

Despite all this, Joe Taggard, ES&S' regional sales vice president, said that chances of having a

next page ►

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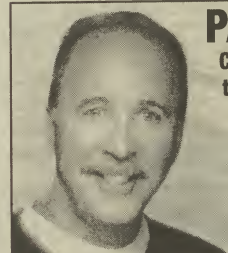
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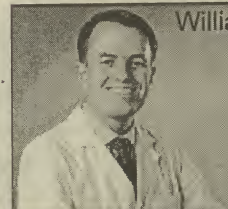
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Passing thoughts

by Ned Howey

I am not trans. Sure enough, I have that girly laugh, those effeminate gestures, and my speech is often peppered with "honey" and "sweetie." I'm not saying I do not ever transgress gender. There are those couple of times a year when I throw on a dress and answer the townspeople's questions as to what the bride of Frankenstein looks like. But truly I am not transgender.

The point is I would feel quite uncomfortable walking into a discussion group for transgender people simply because I would feel I was intruding on a space within which I did not fit. So when it comes down to it I suppose I am not trans, or at least not trans enough. Truly I "pass" for being masculine enough for my gender to fit the sex with which I was born. So then what am I?

There really is no word, at least to my knowledge, to describe people who are not trans besides perhaps "gender normative." That certainly is not a term you hear used in common language. You don't hear people at parties saying, "Is he trans or is he gender normative?" It was as if the only word we had to describe straight was heterosexual or even "sexually normative." Which gets me to thinking how far things still have to go in our own community and the community at large in understanding and accepting transgender people. Where would racial awareness be if we had no word for "white"? We couldn't even really begin to be able to observe the privilege that white people have, and that people of color lack in our society.

So I've decided it was high time to make up a term to describe us "gender normative" queers. Here are a few of my ideas: 1. Statically-sexual. 2. Gender-straight. 3. Uni-gendered. 4. Gender-boring. 5. Blandvestites (people who only wear the clothing of their own sex). 6. Or for those

more inclined to Native American tradition: One-spirited. What do you think? I'm open to suggestions.

A side note for those whom "post-structuralism" means more than disassembling your Ikea furniture with those funny octagonal wrenches: Granted, since gender is at least in some part, if not entirely, socially constructed, (no one comes out of the womb screaming for a pair of heels

or a tool belt) then anyone who is not sexually normative to some degree transgresses gender. This is true because finding the opposite sex attractive and the power rela-

tionship formed by that gender relation is a key part to the definitions of normative genders. So in many ways all LGB people may recognize themselves in their "T" brothers and sisters.

Whatever our preferred terminology may be, it is important that people like myself, who are not transgender, realize the privilege they have in this community and society on the whole. We don't have to worry about people coming up to us and asking offensive questions about our right to be in single-sex spaces. For those of us who "pass" as being gendered into the sex we

were born as, there is comparatively little discrimination by employers worried about the image of their company. We don't have to worry about gender-compromised health services, sideways glances or outright bigotry nearly to the degree that almost all transgender people do. No matter what we call ourselves we must remember that we have a responsibility equally to embrace how integral a part of our community transgender people are, how close the struggles of all queer people are, and to recognize the privilege we experience as people who are not transgender. In other words, we must ally ourselves with transgender people in the fight for equality even if we ourselves are (enter

your own term here for not transgender). ▼

To find out about writing a future "Generation Q" column, please e-mail Ned_the_red@yahoo.com. All lesbian, bisexual, gay, transgender, intersex, queer, and questioning people age 25 and under are welcome to join the group of writers. No experience is required. All that is required is a different experience and the will to tell it. Because of the age of some of the writers or the fact that they may not be out to their families or face other circumstances, the authors of this column may only be identified by their first names.

Generation Q

HIV trial stopped: Trizivir should not be used alone

by Bob Roehr

The National Institutes of Health is stopping a clinical trial that uses Trizivir alone as a first treatment for patients with HIV who have not previously received therapy. Interim analysis shows that the arms of the trial where patients received efavirenz (Sustiva) as part of their regimen were more effective in controlling the disease.

News of the decision came in a March 10 memo to HIV/AIDS health care providers from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.

The Adult AIDS Clinical Trials Group study known as A5095 enrolled 1,147 antiretroviral-naïve patients into the trial. One group received just Trizivir, a combination of the nucleoside analogs AZT, 3TC, and abacavir. Another

group added Sustiva to the Trizivir, while a third went on a regimen of Sustiva and Combivir (AZT + 3TC).

When the independent Data Safety and Monitoring Board reviewed interim 32-week data on the ongoing trial, it found that 21 percent of the Trizivir group but only 10 percent of the Sustiva groups experienced virologic "failure." Failure was defined very conservatively as an HIV viral load greater than 200.

The DSMB recommended that the Trizivir arm of the trial be stopped and patients offered alternative regimens. Patients in the two other arms of the study will be told that their regimen contains Sustiva and those arms of the trial will continue, to see if there are significant differences in outcomes. All of the patients will continue to be followed until the fall of 2004.

"I've always been a little wary of triple nuke regimens," said Douglas Ward, a physician with a large HIV practice in Washington, D.C. "It's easier for the virus to develop resistance mutations when you only use one class of drugs."

He acknowledged that Trizivir is "incredibly well tolerated and easy to take," but other drug options also are becoming easier to take. Ward has used an induction/maintenance regimen where he starts patients on Trizivir and Sustiva, then after their viral load has been undetectable for a year, he is willing to drop the Sustiva. But he warns patients; if their viral load becomes detectable they will have to go back on a more powerful regimen.

Warning on counterfeit Procrit

On March 11, the Food and Drug Administration issued a

warning that counterfeit Procrit has appeared in the marketplace. Not only does the fake product contain no active ingredient, at least some of the samples are contaminated with bacteria. That contamination can have a particularly devastating effect on persons with a compromised immune system, a common occurrence which accompanies severe anemia.

Patients with severe anemia, either from disease or as a side effect of therapy used to treat cancer, HIV, and hepatitis C, sometimes are prescribed Procrit or Epogen to boost production of red blood cells. The proteins are suspended in a clear liquid and are injected.

Ortho Biotech, the manufacturer of Procrit, is cooperating fully in the FDA investigation and has a Web page identifying how to distinguish between counterfeit and legitimate lots of the drug (www.prcrit.com/counterfeit/letter.html).

A similar problem of counterfeiting has occurred with Epogen, human growth hormone, and other very expensive drugs. ▼

HIV/HCV Support Group

An educational group providing social and emotional support, during which topics of interest to group members are discussed.

When?

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Starting 3/26/03

Where?

LGBT Community Center
1800 Market St., San Francisco

For more information or to register, please contact:

Edgar Hernandez
(415) 487-8032

Eligibility:

You must be HIV/HCV co-infected.
You must pre-register.

IRV

◀ previous page

system done on time, "are very good except for court cases, legal actions, things like that."

And a legal action may be waiting in the wings. The San Francisco Republican Party's Chris Bowman said that "the Chinese American Voters Education Committee, the NAACP, or Asian Law Caucus might file a lawsuit," because, he alleged, the system can partially disenfranchise minority voters who would be more likely to vote for only one candidate, and thus limit their participation in the election.

Officials with the city attorney's office discounted the legal merits of the argument, and said they would vigorously fight any suit.

Although Newsom opposed IRV when it went before the voters last year, Jim Ross, Newsom's campaign manager, said that he has accepted the reality that the system will be implemented.

"The voters passed it. I'm running on the assumption that it's going to happen," Ross said. ▼

OBITUARIES

Soldiers' calls to SLDN jump with mobilization

by Bob Roehr

The number of gays and lesbians in the military who sought help from the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network jumped by 30 percent in the first quarter of 2003. The organization expects to receive a record 1,100 requests for assistance for the entire year, if the trend continues.

"As long as our military continues to discriminate against lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender Americans, SLDN will remain on the front lines providing zealous legal assistance to our clients," said Executive Director C. Dixon Osburn.

He acknowledged that the increase in calls is straining SLDN's three-member legal staff and volunteer attorneys in the field.

The increased calls seem to mirror earlier patterns in that approximately 45 percent comes from people serving in the Army, while the Navy and Air Force each are at about 30 percent of the total. About 75 percent are from active duty personnel, including those already called up from the reserves.

SLDN classifies about 60 percent of the inquiries as "coming out cases" where the service member has initiated the action for reasons of integrity or harassment, while some 15 percent are the result of an investigation or "outing."

Women constitute 14 percent of total military personnel but 25 percent of SLDN's inquiries. That

is nothing new. Charges of being a lesbian have been a traditional way to harass women in the military.

One encouraging note is that, "We've seen an increasing reluctance over the past year to discharge personnel" under "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" regulations, said SLDN spokesman Steve Ralls. "Under this administration, commanders have been far more reluctant to do so."

Discharges under DADT that often were rapid, are now stretching out to six or even 12 months while the soldiers continue to serve in their units. This "puts another chink" in the argument that openly gay people are disruptive to unit cohesion and should not be allowed to serve, noted opponents of DADT.

Ralls is cautious on ascribing motivation for this change. Part of

it may simply be the increased needs of the service, especially in light of looming conflict with Iraq. But a greater portion seems to be tied to a firm commitment from the Pentagon to implement the DADT policy fairly, and better education and training on how to do so.

Some service members, both gay and straight, have told their commanders they are gay in an attempt to avoid deployment overseas. If DADT procedures were initiated prior to receiving deployment orders, then there is some chance that the soldier might remain in the U.S. for processing, said Ralls. However, "at this point, anyone who has deployment orders is pretty much going to go."

Once overseas, processing of DADT cases is likely to be sus-

Frances López

April 4, 1953 — March 7, 2003



In memory of Frances López, my dearest friend whom I will miss dearly. She was a very beautiful person that would help anyone without thinking twice about it. She will be greatly missed by all her friends: Lorretta, Malena, Barbie, Monica, Anna, Sylvia, Melissa, Heather, Angie, Susie, Bianca, Michelle, Carla and all the transsexual community. You were an inspiration to all of us.

Brian Pendleton Coop

Brian Pendleton Coop died on March 3rd of liver failure. Brian was born on June 15, 1937 in Providence, Rhode Island. He graduated from Boston University in 1957, where he ob-

tained an Associate in Arts degree. He moved to San Francisco in 1960, and has lived here ever since. He worked briefly for a mortgage company, but found his real niche driving a taxicab, which he did for several years. He has told many wonderful stories about the "fares" he met while touring them around his beloved San Francisco, many of whom became friends for life. He was an avid photographer and served as Vice President of the St. Francis Club, a gathering of older men who enjoyed many restaurants, barbecue swim parties and bay cruises. He was president of the GMN (Gay Male Nudists) organization where he hosted many gatherings in his home, wrote the monthly newsletter and kept the membership roster. His two loving Abyssinian cats, Lincoln and Winston, his close friend and companion of 45 years, Robbie Robinson, his estranged brother living on the East Coast, and a large number of loving friends survive him. To his close friends he was affectionately known as "Brenda Coopstein." Brian, we love you and will miss you greatly.

ended at the convenience of the military. For those deployed in the field, restricted communications and possible monitoring of those communications for security reasons are likely to make it more difficult for a soldier to seek outside assistance.

SLDN has prepared a three-page frequently asked questions sheet on DADT for service members. It is available at its Web site, www.sldn.org. Free confidential legal counseling is available by calling them at (202) 328-FAIR, or by e-mailing legal@sldn.org. ▼

Halloween

◀ page 3

Organizers of that meeting, which involved members of the Merchants of Upper Market and Castro and the Eureka Valley Promotion Association, said it was intended as an informational meeting for the two groups' members. They said they welcome Dufty's having an open process to discuss Halloween and hope the city can devise a way to make it safe for all participants.

"I think it is a great process. It is

open, it will allow all perspectives to be heard and will help contribute to developing a plan for a festive and safe event," said Gustavo Serina, EVPA's president. "We have focused more on the safety side instead of the festivities figuring everyone's idea of fun is different."

In years past, security has been left up to Jane Warner of the San Francisco Patrol Special Police who organizes volunteers to work as safety monitors throughout the night. Police from Mission Station

are also on hand in the event of problems. Merchants, who pay for Warner's services, also help to pay for portable toilets set up on the streets that night. The merchants would like to see the city help pay for such amenities.

"One of MUMC's goals is to ensure the city takes some more responsibility for what has turned into a dangerous event in the Castro," said Herb Cohn, an accountant who is set to become the merchant group's president next

month. "We would like to see the city commit some more resources to this event, such as money for security and planning."

With a dire financial situation this year, it remains to be seen if the city will be able to pick up the tab. Dufty said he has yet to secure funding from the city.

The special meeting of the City Services Committee will take place from 6 to 9 p.m. Wednesday, March 26 in the Board of Supervisors chambers at City Hall. ▼

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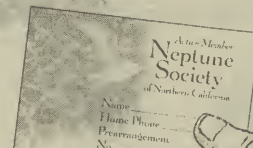
OK, making funeral plans in

advance isn't at the top of your to-do list. But it's far worse for everyone if you simply wait.

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Road trip

by Jim Provenzano

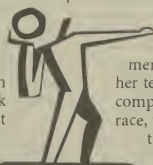
A lot has been made of athletes' sexual orientation in professional sports, yet few recall the many athletes who've been out for a long time, even at the Olympics, accruing sports victories along the way.

Those looking for more inspiration among lesbian and gay athletes might trek to Solano County next week to see the number-one women's cycling team in the world.

Three-time Junior World Champion Ina-Yoko Teutenberg will be competing as part of Team Saturn at the Solano Bicycle Classic, March 27-30, in Fairfield.

Teutenberg's team has competed in this race for the past two years, but, "It's not like the team doesn't have as much pressure," she said.

"It's a nice little race in a nice area," said Teutenberg. "This year it's before some bigger big races, like the Redlands Race and the Sea Otter in Monterey, so it's good to get in shape."



Sports Complex

With nine members on her team, six will compete in the race, which trails through the scenic Solano County towns of Fairfield, Vacaville, Winters, and Angwin.

Zooming by on a high-grade bike, however, may not be the most leisurely way to enjoy the scenery. In her 20 years of racing, she accumulated impressive results, including three junior world championship titles and victories at the Tour de France Féminin.

Other victories include the 2002 Tour de l'Aude (France) in several categories, and in 2001, the San Rafael Cycling Classic, the Grand Prix Féminin International (in Quebec), the Clarendon Cup (Arlington, Virginia), and dozens of other major cycling events around the world.

In 2000, Teutenberg competed at the Olympics in Sydney. The course ran close to Bondi Beach from Centennial Park.

But along the way, Teutenberg's wheel had a puncture and the race was over.

"It's part of cycling," she said. "It happens."

Teutenberg has nevertheless racked up dozens of other victories before and after the Olympics.

Born in Dusseldorf, Germany to an athletic family, her two older brothers are also cyclists, who encouraged her as a child.

"As a little sister you always



I'm a little bit country: The Solano Bicycle Classic.



I like bike: Champion cyclist Ina-Yoko Teutenberg

want to do what the other boys do," she said.

Teutenberg's first serious competition was at age 15, as a member of the German National Team.

As a member of Team Saturn, she said that they compete on Lemond bikes, and get a free car as well.

With her current team, sponsored by the car manufacturer, competition takes precedent over issues of sexuality.

"It's not a big deal being a lesbian," she said. "I've never had any problems. I think there are enough gay girls around in the sport."

With Park City, Utah as her current home, Teutenberg's also taken up snowboarding, but said she'll stick to cycling for real competition.

This weekend's event takes place over four days, and includes a road race, hill climb, criterium, and circuit race, with over 300 men and women competing.

With four diverse events, and lots of small town amusements, said Teutenberg, "There's something for everybody."

For info about the event, visit www.solanobicycleclassic.org, or call (707) 427-7377. For more info about outstanding women cyclists, visit www.wcpalmare.org.

Rug hug

Building on improvements over the season, our own rugby team, the Fog, takes on McGeorge for the final game of the season. This match is always spirited, competitive, and fun. Join them on the Polo Fields for a great day of rugby. Bring a blanket, lunch, and drinks and cheer on your hometown team. Rugby: it's scrum-tily-icious!

San Francisco Fog plays McGeorge Law School this Saturday, March 22. Kick-Off: 1 p.m. at the Polo Fields in Golden Gate Park.

The Fog will host a tournament in conjunction with Pride on June 28 as well. More Info: www.sffog.org.

I get a kick out of you

Triangle Taekwon Do will hold its annual kick-a-thon on Saturday, March 29. The members have been collecting sponsor pledges, and in order to earn the pledges they must perform 1,000 tkd kicks in an hour.

This effort benefits both June PrideFest and the Eureka Valley Recreational Center. The kick-a-thon begins at 1 p.m. at EVRC's outdoor court (18th & Collingwood, one block west of Castro Street, next to Cala Foods).

For more info, contact (415) 495-1888, ttkdc@aol.com, or www.triangletkd.org.

Oscar medal winners

If the Academy of Friends party is a bit steep for your post-dot-com pocket, or if you're boycotting the Oscars for blacklisting antiwar actors as presenters, you can at least enjoy Tsunami swim team's second annual "Oscar Pre-Show Party Extravaganza" on Sunday March 23 at Mecca beginning at 3 p.m.

The faboo event will raise money for the swim group to host IGLA 2003 in August at Stanford University. A \$20 admission gets you a glass of champagne, hors

d'oeuvres, and a chance to win two round trip tickets anywhere Northwest Airlines flies in the continental U.S. Info: www.sftsunami.org.

Hoop de do

The 13th season of the Gay Basketball League is getting under way, with some changes in the works.

"This may be our last league," said organizer Tony Jasinski.

The Eureka Valley Rec Center on Collingwood Street in the Castro is scheduled to close in October, and this closure date seems more likely than previous ones, Jasinski said.

"We won't hold the league again until EVRC reopens. We will have 'open court' play continue somewhere, but that will be all of our program for awhile," he added.

Games are always Thursday nights, with individual sign-up. League membership is \$65, which includes a nice two-sided jersey. Court play is every week, in all levels, with three referees.

Sign-up deadline is April 6. Visit www.gaybasketball.com, or call Tony at (415) 621-2710.

Diamond heights

If you missed my interview with *Take Me Out* playwright Richard Greenberg a few weeks back, you can read it on www.temenos.net. The gay baseball play is currently running on Broadway.

Speaking of gay diamonds in the rough, if you have a competitive edge, and want to meet new people; the Gay Softball League will start up soon, and they are looking for players. The Free Agents Championship team needs players. For info call Mark at (415) 648.6632 and get involved. The league's Opening Day is set for Sunday, March 23. Visit www.sfgsl.org for more info, or call (415) 436-0707.

Streets, wave with gold

SF/Bay Area LGBT athletes have been honored with a nomination for organization grand marshal at this year's SF Pride Parade.

Wouldn't it be nice to see hundreds of Games medalists marching as an honored group? For grand marshal polling locations and times, visit www.sfpd.org.

For more lighthearted athletic distractions from the impending global militarism doomed to suck every last U.S. dollar out of our economy and into Dick Cheney's pockets, visit www.sportscomplex.org. ▼

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CLASSIFIED'S

Michael Savage

◀ page 11

geted me and relentlessly targets me and has made me into worse than Saddam Hussein, which is utterly crazy. I think there are people who target children, there's no question about it, a tiny fraction of people do that but I think there are heterosexual predators who target children too. Look at the Elizabeth Smart case."

Against gay Scout leaders

Savage said he remains opposed to gay Boy Scout leaders because he's concerned that a gay scoutmaster could lead a sexually ambivalent boy to become gay.

"I think that when boys are impressionable and young they need to be led in a certain direction," he said. "And that direction should be toward marriage and family and I don't think you can do that by giving them ambivalent messages."

"My point is that there are going to be people who are going to be gay either way. I think they are just that way. They want to be that way and they are that way. But then there's a whole slew of people who are very ambivalent sexually and I would say if we want to lead boys we should lead them to a heterosexual life, period. I just think that's the way it should be but, however, I think if a person does go the other way, they go the other way. End of story."

Savage, a former teacher, said he has no objections to gay teachers.

Parting ways with many of his conservative colleagues, Savage said that he'd be open to gays serving openly in the military, as they are in Israel, Canada, and most NATO countries.

"I frankly think it should be open," Savage told the B.A.R. "I think it would be better than being hidden."

Savage said that despite the controversy, he has no plans to bring up gay topics on his TV show.

"I don't intend to talk about gay issues because as I've said a hundred times, I don't think it's the most important issue on the planet. I think national security is far more important. In fact I know it is. And on a sexual level, for Christ sake how many times do I have to say it, I am a sexual libertarian. I don't care what people do to stimulate the orifices. That's the simplest way I could put it."

Savage said his conservative outlook ultimately offers the greatest benefits to gays and other minorities and he believes many activists are shortsighted.

"I oppose gay marriage because I think marriage means man and woman," he explained. "It's an institution that is the brick of civilization. And I think you need stability in a civilization for gay movement to exist. In other words, a gay movement can't even exist in a broken down society. It can only exist as an accepted minority lifestyle within the framework of a structured society. That's my whole point. Once you break the structure down, and I think Camille Paglia would agree with me, there's chaos and anarchy and I think in the long run that's a disaster for minority groups." ▼

Information about GLAAD's campaign against Savage can be found on its Web site: www.glaad.org. Savage's Web site is www.Michaelsavage.com.

Democrat rivals

◀ page 14

tors for why he favors Dean over the other candidates.

Dean's years honing his bedside manner may also play some part in his ability to win over supporters. And his instincts at how to repair and heal the Democratic Party also seem to be resonating.

"One of his agenda items is to make people feel good about being Democrats," Hogan said. "He doesn't need to obfuscate things. He sounds like a doctor, he speaks to you as your doctor."

And while she had stepped out of the convention Saturday during Dean's speech to take part in an antiwar demonstration, Walker said when she returned and saw the excitement Dean's speech had over the delegates, her decision to support Dean was cemented.

"The effect Dean had on the whole convention, we will need that hope and that enthusiasm to get Bush out," she said. "It seems like he is the one who can grasp our hearts and shake us into action and do the work to win the presidency back and win the Congress back."

And let old rivals bury the hatchet, for now. ▼

LEGAL NOTICES

STATEMENT FILE 0265258-00
The following person(s) are doing business as: Conscious Chiropractic & Acupuncture, 220 Montgomery St., 305 San Francisco, Ca. 94104. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Amy Michelle Paris, president. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on March 12, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 03/12/2003.
MAR. 13, 20, 27, APR. 3, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0265266-00
The following person(s) are doing business as: Turbo Hardware, 1244 La Playa Street #1 San Francisco, Ca. 94122. This business is conducted by an individual signed Paul D. Constantine. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 03/10/2003.
MAR. 13, 20, 27, APR. 3, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0265194-00
The following person(s) are doing business as: Elan LaLonde Ceramics, 29 Alert, San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business is conducted by an individual signed Elan LaLonde. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on March 3, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 03/10/2003.
MAR. 13, 20, 27, APR. 3, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0265144-00
The following person(s) are doing business as: Banana's, 191 Pine Street San Francisco, Ca. 94105. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Vena Stoyevayaratana. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on March 7, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 03/07/2003.
MAR. 13, 20, 27, APR. 3, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0265118-00
The following person(s) are doing business as: New York Street Cafe, 600 York Street San Francisco, Ca. 94102. This business is conducted by an individual signed Lena Jweinat. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on March 1, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 03/07/2003.
MAR. 13, 20, 27, APR. 3, 2003



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STATEMENT FILE 0264277-00
The following person(s) are doing business as: Salema Boutique Old And New, 3130 San Bruno Avenue San Francisco, Ca. 94134. This business is conducted by husband and wife signed Salema A. Muhammad and Vincent A. Jones. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on February 05, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/05/2003.
FEB. 27, MAR. 6, 13, 20, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0264582-00
The following person(s) are doing business as: Close Encounters Research, 124 D'Onofre Avenue San Francisco, Ca. 94103. This business is conducted by an individual signed Jeff Freedman. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/14/2003.
FEB. 27, MAR. 6, 13, 20, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0264245-00
The following person(s) are doing business as: The Digital Edge, 100 First Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94105. This business is conducted by a limited liability company signed Joseph Burton- Authorized person. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on February 4, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/04/2003.
FEB. 27, MAR. 6, 13, 20, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0264658-00
The following person(s) are doing business as: Q Beauty, 883 Geary Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94109. This business is conducted by an individual signed Kelly Le. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on March 23, 1998. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/19/2003.
FEB. 27, MAR. 6, 13, 20, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0264738-00
The following person(s) are doing business as: Soc Loc, 101 Madrone Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94127. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Steven Anton, president. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on June 13, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/21/2003.
FEB. 27, MAR. 6, 13, 20, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0264540-00
The following person(s) are doing business as: #1 Mattress Discounters, 1350 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94109. This business is conducted by a limited liability company signed Joe Morano/Facilities Manager. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on December 6, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/13/2003.
FEB. 27, MAR. 6, 13, 20, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0264752-00
The following person(s) are doing business as: Judy's Cafe, 2269 Chestnut Street #248, San Francisco, Ca. 94123. This business is conducted by an individual signed Charles Bain. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on October 12, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/24/2003.
FEB. 27, MAR. 6, 13, 20, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0264732-00
The following person(s) are doing business as: Pronto Electric, 21 Flood Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94131. This business is conducted by an individual signed Marco Vinicio Moran. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on February 15, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/21/2003.
FEB. 27, MAR. 6, 13, 20, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0264829-00
The following person(s) are doing business as: The Auditorium Liquor, 1561 Fillmore Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94115. This business is conducted by an individual signed Alex Kim. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/25/2003.
FEB. 27, MAR. 6, 13, 20, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0264894-00
The following person(s) are doing business as: Mala Tandori Kitchen, 417 O'Farrell Street San Francisco, Ca. 94102. This business is conducted by a limited liability company signed Sohail Subedar, CEO/pres. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/27/2003.
MAR. 6, 13, 20, 27, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0264790-00
The following person(s) are doing business as: Contreras Design, 1093 Dolores Street #3, San Francisco, Ca. 94110. This business is conducted by an individual signed Steven P. Contreras. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on February 24, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/24/2003.
MAR. 6, 13, 20, 27, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0264927-00
The following person(s) are doing business as: Lee & Lee Management & Associates, 2543 Clement Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94121. This business is conducted by a limited liability company signed Helen Lee and Sul Lee. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on January 1, 1978. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/25/2003.
MAR. 6, 13, 20, 27, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0264820-00
The following person(s) are doing business as: Frank's Market And Liquor, 4799 A Mission Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94112. This business is conducted by an individual signed Yehya Abdoulla Hassan. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on January 1, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/25/2003.
MAR. 6, 13, 20, 27, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0264913-00
The following person(s) are doing business as: Bob Vickery Enterprises, 3000 Divisadero Street #2, San Francisco, Ca. 94117. This business is conducted by an individual signed Clinton T. Seiler. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/27/2003.
MAR. 6, 13, 20, 27, 2003

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO. CNC-03540598

In the Matter of the Application of Laura Gay Rauch For change of Name. The application of Laura Gay Rauch for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Laura Gay Rauch has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Laura Rauch Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 21st day of April at 9:00am, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.
MAR. 6, 13, 20, 27, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0265024-00
The following person(s) are doing business as: Foolsfury Theater, 3529 21st Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94114-3026. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Ben Yalom, Artistic Director. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on January 24, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 03/04/2003.
MAR. 13, 20, 27, APR. 3, 2003

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO. CNC CNC-03-540615

In the Matter of the Application of Mandy Lee Van Zytveld For change of Name. The application of Mandy Lee Van Zytveld for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Mandy Lee Van Zytveld has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Amanda Lee Nelson. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 01 day of May at 9:00am, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.
MAR. 13, 20, 27, APR. 3, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0265082-00
The following person(s) are doing business as: New Easy Int, Co. 941 Pacific Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94133. This business is conducted by an individual signed Ginhwa Lin. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on March 06, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 03/06/2003.
MAR. 13, 20, 27, APR. 3, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0265111-00
The following person(s) are doing business as: 365, Inc. 330 Townsend Street #109, San Francisco, Ca. 94107. This business is conducted by a corporation signed J. McGrath, VP. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on February 20, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 03/06/2003.
MAR. 13, 20, 27, APR. 3, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0265051-00
The following person(s) are doing business as: JayMay Association, 388 Beale Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94105. This business is conducted by co-partners signed William J. Clark and Lish N. May. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on March 03, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 03/06/2003.
MAR. 13, 20, 27, APR. 3, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0265160-00
The following person(s) are doing business as: Rugged Elegance, LLC, 1100 Broderick Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94115. This business is conducted by a limited partnership signed Jennifer C. King and Timothy C. Fredel. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on March 07, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 03/10/2003.
MAR. 13, 20, 27, APR. 3, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0265184-00
The following person(s) are doing business as: Hai Chao, 402 8th Suite 203, San Francisco, Ca. 94118. This business is conducted by an individual signed Hai Chao Huang. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on March 10, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 03/10/2003.
MAR. 13, 20, 27, APR. 3, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0265176-00
The following person(s) are doing business as: Club 101, 101-16 Sixth Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94103. This business is conducted by an individual signed John G. Kovacs. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 03/10/2003.
MAR. 13, 20, 27, APR. 3, 2003

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE: CASE NUMBER 03-284380

TO all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of: Alma Pacheco (decedent). A Petition for Probate has been filed by V. Kathy Holland Smith, in the Superior Court of California, San Francisco Superior Court 400 McAllister Street, Room 204, San Francisco, Ca. 94102-4514. County of San Francisco. The Petition for Probate requests that V. Kathy Holland Smith be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent. The Petition requests the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court. A Hearing on the petition will be held on: Wednesday April 16, 2003 in the Probate Department at 9:00am, room #204, 400 McAllister Street San Francisco, Ca. 94102-4514.

IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objection with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within four months from the date of first issuance of letters as provided in Probate Code section 9100. The time for filing claims will not expire before four months from the hearing date noticed above. YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. Attorney for petitioner is: Thomas M. Schneider, BAR #141023. Address: 3200 Inland Empire Blvd. #235 Ontario, Ca. 91764, (909) 484-2002. The Petitioner is: V. Kathy Holland Smith.
MARCH 20, 27, APRIL 3, 2003

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LEGAL NOTICES

CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

VACANCY NOTICES

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 54974, California Government Code, notice is hereby given of the following unscheduled vacancies. Interested persons may obtain an application form from the Clerk of the Rules Committee, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244, San Francisco, CA 94102-4689. Completed applications should be submitted to the Clerk of the Board. All applicants must be residents of San Francisco, unless otherwise stated. Additional information and an application may be obtained by accessing the City's web site www.igf.org/bdsupr.

Please Note: Depending upon the posting date, some vacancies may have already been filled. To determine if vacancies for this Board/Committee/Commission or Task Force are still available please call the Rules Committee Clerk at 554-5184.

Mental Health Board

The Mental Health Board consists of seventeen (17) members. Each member of the Board of Supervisors shall appoint a member of the Mental Health Board (11 members). The remaining six (6) members are appointed by the full Board of Supervisors, one of whom shall be a member of the Board of Supervisors. As required by the Welfare and Institutions Code Section 5604, at least nine members shall be consumers or the parents, spouses, siblings or adult children of consumers; at least four members shall be consumers; and at least four members shall be family of consumers.

Except for the Board of Supervisors member, the term of each member shall be for three years. No member shall serve more than two consecutive terms.

Vacant seat, 15, must be a health professional, for the unexpired portion of a three year term ending January 31, 2004.

Pedestrian Safety Advisory Committee

The Pedestrian Safety Advisory Committee shall consist of eleven (11) voting members appointed by the Board of Supervisors as follows: three representatives from pedestrian safety organizations; two representatives from a senior or disability organization; one representative from bicycle or other non-motorized wheeled personal transport organization; one representative from transit or environmental organization; one representative from child advocate or school support organizations; one representative from a public health organization; and two at-large representatives.

The following City Departments shall select a non-voting representative: Parking and Traffic; Public Health; Municipal Railway; Public Works; Planning; Police; Recreation and Parks; District Attorney's Office; and any other City departments whose work impacts pedestrian safety.

The term of each Advisory Committee member shall be two years. However, half of the members will serve an initial one year term and half will serve a two year term to be determined by lot. The Advisory Committee shall be supported by the Department of Parking and Traffic.

Vacant Seat 5, new position, must be a representative from senior or disability organization, for a new two-year term ending date to be determined by lot.

Vacant Seat 8, new position, must be a representative from a child advocate or school support organization, for a new two-year term ending date to be determined by lot.

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR CONTRACTOR SERVICES TO PERFORM ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING AND REMEDIATION AT FORMER NAVAL STATION TREASURE ISLAND SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA.

The RFQ will be available on Monday March 17, 2003 from the Treasure Island Development Authority (TIDA), 410 Palm Avenue, San Francisco, CA. A pre-bid orientation meeting will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Friday March 28, 2003 in Building 271 (Casa de la Viena), Treasure Island, San Francisco, CA. Qualifications in response to this RFQ may be addressed to Stephen Proud, Deputy Director, at the Authority office (415) 274-0660.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE
STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND
FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN
FRANCISCO FILE NO. CNC
03540616

In the Matter of the Application of Laura Grace Lee For change of Name. The application of Laura Grace Lee for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Laura Grace Lee has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Laura Grace Kogen. Now therefore, It is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 01 day of May at 9:00am., of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.
MAR. 13, 20, 27, APR. 3, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0265126-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: EyeCare America, EyeCare America, A Public Service Foundation of the American Academy of Ophthalmology, 655 Beach Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94109. This business is conducted by a Nonprofit corporation (501(c) (3) sub-fund of Minnesota nonprofit corp.) signed Brad A. Wong, Executive Director. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 03/07/2003.
MAR. 13, 20, 27, APR. 3, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0265142-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: La Czar Enterprises- International, 355 Octavia Street #31, San Francisco, Ca. 94102-5816. This business is conducted by an individual signed Richard S. La Czar. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on March 7, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 03/07/2003.
MAR. 13, 20, 27, APR. 3, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0265045-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Z- Club Radio Control Cars And Accessories, 219 Clement Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94118. This business is conducted by an individual signed Derek Chu. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 03/04/2003.
MAR. 6, 13, 20, 27, 2003



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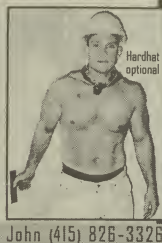
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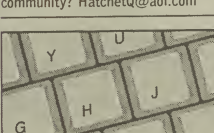
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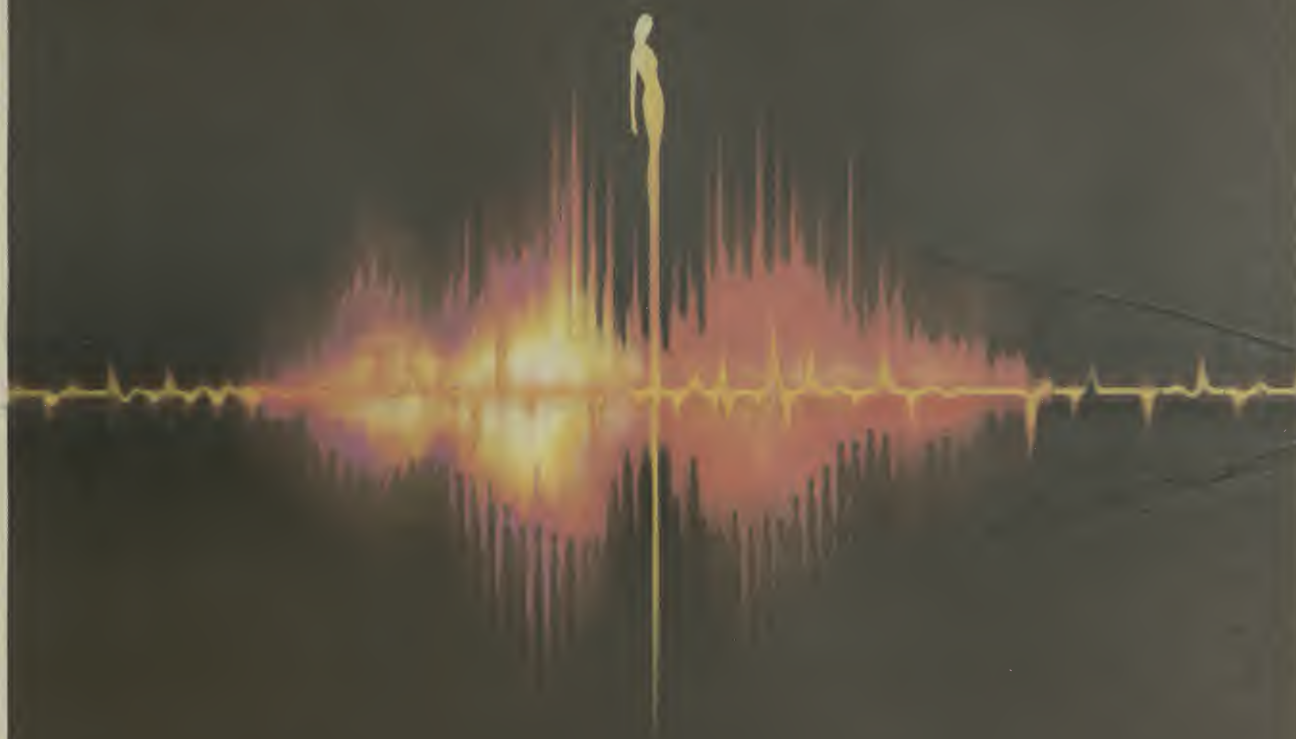
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resurrects 'Don Quixote.'
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Bravura behavior
SF Symphony welcomes
guest artists Guy, Fischer.
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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 33 • No. 12 • 20 March 2003

BAY AREA REPORTER 2003 OSCAR AWARDS SPECIAL

Buffed and gilded live "Oscars" on pedestals at
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ACADEMY OF FRIENDS GALA 2003 PARTYING FOR A GOOD CAUSE

by Adam Sandel

What began as 25 friends renting a suite at the Bedford Arms Hotel to watch the Academy Awards in 1980 has evolved into San Francisco's premiere Oscar party. More than 2,500 revelers now attend the Academy of Friends Gala, which, to date, has raised \$4.2 million for local HIV/AIDS organizations.

For the 23rd Academy of Friends Gala this Sunday, more than 500 volunteers, designers and production technicians will transform the cavernous Fort Mason Festival Pavilion into a haven of movie-themed luxury.

Guests will stroll past a dozen buffed and gilded live "Oscars" to dine on gourmet foods from over 40 of the Bay Area's leading restaurants and caterers, and taste select specialties from 40 top vintners and champagne houses.

As a tribute to the gala's Hollywood spirit, designers have created lush movie-themed viewing rooms, including Blond Bombshell, Sci-Fi Fantasy, Erotica, Film Noir and Romance, as well as a VIP lounge dedicated to Musicals.

"We invented the screening-room concept two years ago to give people more of an intimate place to watch the show," says Gala Chair Jeff Van Leuven. "We've added more whimsy to the gala this year by embracing the movie-genre themes."

Although Van Leuven won't give away any surprises, it's rumored that some of the screening rooms will feature live characters who will interact with the guests. Since this year's smart money is betting on big wins for *Chicago*, there's likely to be a movie-musical influence on the post-ceremony entertainment that kicks off the gala dance party.

"My favorite part is the first hour of the party, as the guests are walking in to see what we've created this time," says Michael Mahoney, who has served as Volunteer Coordinator, Board Chair, Gala Chair, and now Treasurer of Academy of Friends.

In his 12 years with the organization, Mahoney has seen his share of memorable gala moments. The indoor fireworks that celebrated the 20th anniversary gala went off without a

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SUPPORTING STARS AND STARRING SUPPORT

BACK TO THE OSCARS FOR THE 75TH TIME by Matthew Kennedy

Through the years, the Academy has been wildly inconsistent in defining lead and supporting performances, drop-kicking actors into various categories by fickle criteria based on studio request, marketing, name recognition, age, and competition. This year, for the 75th Hollywood showdown, the situation rises to new heights of absurdity. Catherine Zeta-Jones may have less to do than Renée Zellweger in *Chicago*, but she has far more than Queen Latifah in the same movie, and both are up for Supporting Actress. Chris Cooper and Meryl Streep of *Adaptation* are on the supporting lists, yet their performances dominated the movie every bit as much as did Nicolas Cage's, up for Best Actor.

But the real kicker is in *The Hours*, that downbeat investigation of three depressive women. Sometime in the 23rd century, after historians figure out the 2000 election, they'll turn their attention to the 75th Academy Award nominations. When they do, they'll attempt to explain how a 30-minute third-billed performance (Nicole Kidman in *The Hours*) can be nominated for Best Actress, while a 32-minute second-billed performance (Julianne Moore) in the same



Above, Julianne Moore in *The Hours*. Right, Catherine Zeta-Jones in *Chicago*

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SECOND OF TWO SECTIONS

Studpup suffers breakdown; invests in rubber fetishwear

Portuguese art-porn coming to a theater near you

by Roberto Friedman

Fantasma (The Phantom), opening Friday at Opera Plaza Cinemas, is first-time director **João Pedro Rodrigues'** character study of a young, sexy garbageman in North Lisbon erotically obsessed with a dumb-cluck motorcyclist who has the random misfortune to be on his route. The film is arty in an irritating way: slow-moving, virtually plotless. But visually? Highly stimulating.

Sérgio works the grunt shift in the city trash-haul, and in his off-

hours seems driven to find bestial sex with strange men in dark alleys and toilets. His best friend in life is clearly the trash-terminus dog, who also appears to be his role model. He pursues carnal pleasures with a decidedly canine appetite — i.e., lots of licking and sniffing.

You would have to say that Sérgio is kind of a sick puppy himself, but we mean that in a good way. Somewhat unprofessionally, Serg dig through his love object's trash, finds his ripped-up swimsuit, and comes to cherish and wear it. Eventually stalking his motorbike boy at the public pool, he excitedly licks the wall of the shower room. Dude! Good way to catch a nasty case of athlete's tongue!

There's not a whole lot of dialogue or context-setting in *O Fantasma* as we follow Sérgio on his downward spiral of sexual obsession. Anyone looking for scenic glimpses of quaint old Lisbon will have to settle for a long, bleak sequence set in the city dump. Serg never meets cute. The film's look is generally grungy and dark; its soundtrack consists mainly of barks and other doggy noises.

But there's something of **Paolini** in the film, queer transgression by the buckets as Sérgio breaks and enters, pees all over his beloved's bed, and finally goes beyond all bounds of decency in



Ricardo Meneses ably plays the erotically obsessed Sérgio in João Pedro Rodrigues' *O Fantasma* (The Phantom).

pursuing his erotic prey. There's also something of **Genet** in the way a mean policeman power-trips the young pup, brandishes his nightstick, and flaunts his uniform. You can bet if this cop worked a beat in SF, the fajitas would soon hit the fan.

After perpetrating a rather brutal violation scene, our unsanitary worker reverts to something like a primal state, crawling around refuse sites in a shiny, skintight black-rubber suit that he must have picked up in some fetishwear boutique. For sustenance, he scavenges for discarded food, dirty water and the occasional wild bunny to roast. *Masterpiece Theatre* this is not.

But young **Ricardo Meneses** (Rodrigues says he was 18 at the time of the shoot) looks great in utter depravity, gives everything he's got, and rivets in scenes full of nudity, rubberwear, and a lavatory blowjob that's unusually explicit. *O Fantasma* played the festival circuit in 2000, obviously ahead of its time in the prominent part that both duct tape and a rubber mask play.

PS You won't find any review,

positive or negative, of this film in the *SF Chronicle*, because it offends the suburban sensibilities of a movie editor there. Now that the gloves are off and SF is exposed as a town with only one real daily paper, isn't it shocking how the *Chron* exercises near-monopoly control over what gets covered?

Shake 'n' bake

It was a good week to be a **Spice Girl** or a **Dixie Chick**, but the rest of us are apparently screwed. True, **Dixie Chick Natalie Maines** had to back-pedal after she told a London audience during a European tour that the Chicks were "ashamed the President of the United States is from Texas," but at least she got a big cheer out of the British, not always an easy thing to do. With any luck, the Pres. who embarrasses even Dixie Chicks is fixin' to become an ex-President next year, when we will cue up, "All My Exes Live in Texas."

"As a concerned American citizen, I apologize to **President Bush** because my remark was disrespectful," the singer was com-

pelled to issue a statement in most unlyrical prose. "I feel that whoever holds that office should be treated with the utmost respect." As opposed to exercising her rights to saying what she really believes?

Meanwhile, ex-Spice Girl **Geri Halliwell** admitted to London's *Sun* tabloid that she has had a brief lesbian fling, or "a little lesbian thing," as the former Ginger Spice called it, adding that the erotic encounter with an unnamed woman had merely been "part of experimenting." Just trying a pinch of thyme here, a little rosemary there.

Halliwell went on to briefly date British pop star **Robbie Williams**, who must emit a musk displeasing to her, because *that* little experiment in chemistry was sure short-lived. She refused to give the press the opening and closing dates of her lesbian period, but offered clues in a manner similar to the old guess-a-number game. "It was somewhere between the ages of 16 and 30. [She is now 30.] It was just a drunken moment."

Leave it to a veteran of the Vietnam Era to speak out on the US government's current state of inebriation. At the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame induction ceremony in Cleveland earlier this week, 57-year-old rocker **Neil Young** reflected, "We're having fun tonight, but we're gonna start killing people next week. I feel like I'm in a great gas-guzzling SUV, driven by someone who's drunk as fuck."

It will be interesting to see which presenters or winners at the Academy Awards presentation will be driven by a social conscience to say something about this unconscionable war. *Bowling for Columbine* director **Michael Moore**, at the ceremony for the French film awards Cesars, told the audience, "Bush doesn't represent the majority of Americans, and that needs to be said over and over."

At the recent Arts Directors Guild Awards banquet, the 93-year-old dean of production designers **Robert F. Boyle** said, "A voice of sanity will come from

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Andre Barbosa, right, plays the object of Sérgio's lustful obsession.

The steamy South

Wide Screen series continues at the Castro

by Tavo Amador

Following the artistic and commercial success of the film version of Tennessee Williams' *A Streetcar Named Desire* (1951), Hollywood turned to him and other Southern writers for smoldering, sometimes over-the-top melodramas. Two of these are part of the Castro's Wide Wide Screen series.

Sweet Bird of Youth (1962) is based on the openly gay Williams' penultimate Broadway success. Its original stars, Paul Newman and Geraldine Page, repeated their stage triumphs. Adapted and directed by Richard Brooks, this is a flamboyant, corrosive, often funny, and ultimately touching movie. Newman is Chance Wayne, an aging heterosexual hustler desperate for movie stardom. His ambitions now rest with has-been screen star Alexandra del Lago (Page), who picked him up in Palm Beach, and whom he has driven to the small Gulf town of St. Cloud. She's escaping her disastrous comeback, and he's hoping to reconnect with Heavenly Finley (an affecting Shirley Knight), the girl he left behind. Heavenly's father is Boss Finley (an unforgettable Ed Begley), whose corrupt political machine is being challenged by liberal "commies."

Page, in an Oscar-nominated performance, dazzles as the traumatized, self-involved, stoned Alexandra. When she comes out of her stupor and takes in the handsome Chance, she murmurs, "Well, I may have done better, but God knows I've done worse." These two monsters battle it out. Chance makes calls to important Hollywood columnists in hopes Alexandra will mention him. Page glories in her big scene, talking long-distance to Walter Winchell, who gives her surprising news about her comeback. Newman expertly conveys Chance's anxiety: his looks and lovemaking skills are all he has to offer, and neither will last forever. Ed Begley won the Best Supporting Actor Oscar for this performance. With Mildred Dunnock, Rip Torn, and Madeleine Sherwood, all in fine form. (3/20)

Bird is teamed with Martin Ritt's *The Long Hot Summer*



Paul Newman, impossibly handsome

(1958), based on two William Faulkner stories. An impossibly good-looking Paul Newman plays Ben Quick, a suspected arsonist who arrives in a small Mississippi town dominated by Orson Welles. Joanne Woodward is Welles' prim daughter, who soon proves not only buildings burn when Ben is around. Anthony Franciosa is Welles' dim son, married to the flirtatious Lee Remick, and Angela Lansbury is Welles' mistress. Newman heats up the screen, even if it's hard to see what draws him to Woodward. The rest of the cast seems to be having fun, although Welles' accent is often unintelligible. Lansbury and Remick are standouts. (3/20)

Billy Wilder's *The Apartment* (1960) and Woody Allen's *Manhattan* (1979) are both set in the Big Apple, but have very different perspectives. Wilder's black comedy stars Jack Lemmon as a company man eager for success, Fred MacMurray as a sleazy married executive, and Shirley MacLaine as an elevator operator involved with both men. All three are excellent. *The Apartment* won five Oscars, including Best Picture, Director, and Screenplay. *Manhattan* is based on the premise that a neurotic, self-involved, unattractive man, played by Allen, is irresistible to Diane Keaton, Meryl Streep, and Mariel Hemingway. If you buy that, the rest of the film is a comic delight. Only the Brooklyn-born and -reared Allen could love Manhattan the way he does. (3/21-22)

Roman Polanski's *Chinatown*

(1974) is a terrific, complex murder mystery set in '30s Los Angeles. Jack Nicholson is the detective, Faye Dunaway the woman not to be trusted, and John Huston the most frightening father imaginable. Gripping and atmospheric, it's teamed with 1969's *The Mississippi Mermaid*. (3/23-24)

Louis Malle's *Viva Maria!* (1965) casts Jeanne Moreau and Brigitte Bardot as showgirls in revolutionary Mexico around 1900. It runs out of gas early, but Bardot shows that in films, youth, beauty, and high spirits are more important than acting talent. It's paired with 1960's *The Magnificent Seven*, John Sturges' reworking of Kurosawa's *Seven Samurai*. Yul Brynner, Steve McQueen, and Horst Buchholz provide plenty of eye candy. (3/25)

Magnolia (1999), with Tom Cruise in an Oscar-nominated performance, and *Boogie Nights* (1997), starring Mark Wahlberg as a celebrated porn star, play 3/26. ▼

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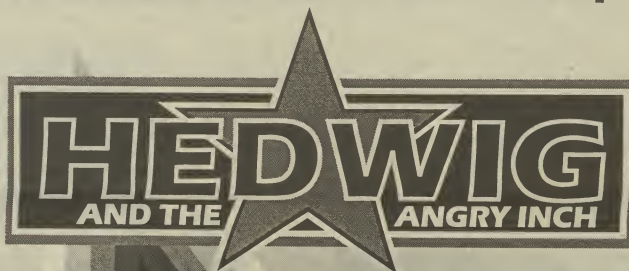
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Out There

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artists who have nothing more to do than be creative and not destructive." We can only hope so.

Dinner parties

Out There was pleased to be asked to help celebrate when Teatro ZinZanni marked its 3rd anniversary of *Love, Chaos & Dinner* out at Pier 29 on the Embarcadero last week. We're always charmed by the dinner show's mix of vaudeville, acrobatics and nourishing sustenance. Current featured performer El Vez (he's the Presley impersonator on the ad banners) did his idol and his jumpsuit proud, encouraging audience members to speak Spanish, 'cause they're in America now.

ZinZanni may be the only show in town where the waiters, busboys, chefs and dishwashers come out for a rousing rendition of "Taking Care of Business." Usually you have to seek them out in



ZinZanni celebrates 3rd year in SF.

the kitchen to suck up to them, or them off. If anything, we left the antique tent overstimulated.

OT goes out on a limb with Oscar predix: *Chicago* in a rout. If we had our druthers: Best Actor, Adrien Brody; Best Picture, Roman Polanski's *The Pianist*, required viewing for anyone who still believes in war as foreign policy. ▼

Uncomplicated virtues

SF Ballet's full-length 'Don Quixote' takes off at the War Memorial

by Stephanie von Buchau

I was surprised at Friday night's San Francisco Ballet premiere of *Don Quixote* by how many people told me they had never seen the ballet before. I was not surprised afterward, when some of the same viewers expressed dismay at what a shallow piece it is for a full-evening work, and how terrible the music is. I couldn't agree more. Yet if you want pure, spectacular, mindless dance, an uncomplicated, two-dimensional plot, and endlessly thumping, four-square tunes, *Don Quixote* is your ballet.

Obviously that is why SFB's artistic director, Helgi Tomasson, and the company's celebrated Russian premier danseur and choreographer, Yuri Possokhov, decided to resurrect this 1869 Bolshoi warhorse, employing not only the 1900 Alexander Gorsky revisions to Marius Petipa's original, but adding additional music to Leon Minkus' brassy score. The SFB version is over two-and-a-half hours, which is about 30 minutes too much for my ears, but one understands the urge not only to restage, but to use the company's corps as much as possible. There is no doubt you get your money's worth.

Still, *Don Quixote* is a solo dancer's vehicle, and it wasn't until SFB had the dancers capable of the work that Tomasson could



SF Ballet's Lorena Feijoo dances the part of the young lover Kitri in Tomasson/Possokhov's *Don Quixote*.

even contemplate staging it. With his two Cuban stars, Lorena Feijoo and Joan (say "Juan") Boada, steeped in the bravura Bolshoi tradition, the opening performance would have been a hit even without the supporting dancers,

some of whom were better than I've ever seen them.

Take the gypsy camp scene, where the young lovers Kitri (Feijoo) and Basilio (Boada) flee from her impossible suitor and intransigent father. Tomasson

starts immediately with a big ensemble, followed by the Gypsy leader's *demi-caractere* solo, excitingly dispatched by Peter Brandenhoff. Then we get a terrific, lengthy solo for a Gypsy woman, danced with fire, passion and liquid movements by, of all people, the classically straight-faced Sherri LeBlanc. In the following tavern scene, Mercedes (beloved of the bullfighter Espada) was sinuously, sexily danced by a new SFB soloist, Sarah Van Patten.

Mincing meat

Don Quixote the ballet is not actually about the Man of La Mancha (Benjamin Pierce, probably picked because he is tall and skinny, not because he can act), but merely uses a section of Cervantes' picaresque novel to launch the standard *commedia dell'arte* plot about the saucy young miss who wants to marry a handsome but poor young man, while her father prefers a wealthy but totally unsuitable *parti*. Gamache is an overdressed fop, foolish and awkward, so what a surprise to have him danced by Damian Smith, one of SFB's most virile hunks. Dressed in pastel green and silver, with a huge hat and high heels, Smith minced, tripped, fell over, and in general made such a comic spectacle of himself that you could hardly take your eyes off him. Ditto SFB's other new hunk, Pascal Molat, as the scruffy San-

cho Panza.

When Feijoo and Boada are sharing the stage, that's quite a feat. Boada would be a crowd-pleaser no matter what, but one got the feeling that much of the audience shared the irony of his having been "dismissed" (as the morning paper put it) on the eve of his return to health. He's battled a bad knee for three years, and it looks as if he may never be sound enough for the workload of a regular company member, which is why SFB can't afford to retain him. Yet he certainly helped make this show better than it had any right to be. Solidly built, handsome and narcissistic as a male model, Boada was already so spectacular in elevation and pyrotechnical tricks before his injuries that any "loss of a step" is academic. Jetes, tours, pirouettes à la second and otherwise, traveling turns, splits, beats, you name it, he can do it, higher, wider, bigger than anyone. He's a classic jumping-jack, but not a lightweight, investing the tricks with heroic power as well as with shimmering quicksilver.

As for Feijoo, she has all the technical dazzle as well as the brittle personality that a Kitri should display. Her toework with those beautiful feet is pleasingly poised and delicate, her jumps are big and airy, and, in the new, sensual pas de deux Tomasson added to the gypsy scene, she melted even the self-regarding Boada. The vision scene was lacking choreographic spiritual qualities, and I didn't find the lifts in the famous grand pas de deux quite as exciting as they should be. They were secure enough but didn't have that explosive, dangerous, musical quality that can make them (and us) delirious.

And that brings me to my one real problem with this production, its lack of musicality. Minkus' score is danceable; how could it not be, with its overpowering "downbeat-thump-thump" quality? Yet its very squareness defeats subtle, musical phrasing, while the harsh orchestration is hard on the ears. Guest conductor David LaMarche, from ABT, had good control of SFB's pit band, but I can't tell you how many times I was thankful not to be sitting on the brass side of the War Memorial.

In what was a well-meant idea, Possokhov and Tomasson tried to involve the standing corps in the dances by having them clap along. But the raggedy, unmusical quality of their clapping actually worked against the music's climaxes. I'm afraid that, even with this square a beat, white people can't clap. ▼

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Berlioz is this year's baby

Tenor Roberto Alagna tackles his difficult arias

by Stephanie von Buchau

Can you think of any weirder operatic bedfellows than San Francisco Opera's general director, Pamela Rosenberg, and the French-Sicilian tenor, Roberto Alagna? Sorry if that juxtaposition made you aspire to your Coke, Merlot or latte. The chances of the austere, ensemble-oriented Rosenberg and the glam international singing star achieving détente at SFO are dim to none. He's expensive and erratic, and I don't think she'd like him even if he were cheap. He certainly wouldn't stick around for six weeks of rehearsal.

Yet, oddly enough, both

Rosenberg and Alagna have declared, in this bicentennial year of his birth, that their favorite opera composer is Hector Berlioz (1803-1869). Berlioz is the first great Romantic opera composer, and his output is wildly uneven. Not one of Berlioz's dramatic vocal compositions is really viable in a regular-sized American repertory opera house. That doesn't stop impresarios from staging *Beatrice et Benedict* (too intimate for 3,000-plus seats); *Benvenuto Cellini* (nearly impossible-to-cast title role); *Damnation de Faust* (not meant to be staged); and *Les Troyens* (too long, too big, another impossible-to-cast tenor role).

I mention "impossible to cast"

with barely concealed glee, because Alagna has just released an album of Berlioz tenor arias, which (to the chagrin of his detractors) he sings splendidly. It includes the above works, plus *L'Enfance du Christ* (my personal favorite Berlioz work); *Romeo et Juliette*; *Huit Scenes de Faust*; *Lelio*; and the grandiose Berlioz arrangement of "La Marseillaise," France's national anthem (EMI Classics).

What this single disc, conducted idiomatically by Bertrand de Billy (who helmed the Met's recent *Troyens*), tells us is that when it comes to Romantic vocal music (Romantic era, not Harlequin romances), Berlioz was a great neoclassicist. He's so original that you

can't pin him down stylistically, except that Mephistopheles' serene from the Opus 1 *Faust* (accompanied by guitar) doesn't sound all that different from the mature *Damnation* aria, "Nature immense" or the love duet where Alagna is partnered by his equally starchy wife, Angela Gheorghiu.

Alagna sings both the hero Faust and the villain Mephisto with assurance, beautiful tone, buttery legato, operatic high notes and marvelous French diction. Alagna may have an outsized Sicilian ego, but he was born and schooled in France, and there is something about the French language that elevates any opera singer's style.

Free reign

The tenor, far from being the dumb bunny his detractors claim, is a serious student of operatic history. He contributes a program note to the album that examines some of the difficulties Berlioz presents for a tenor. Since the Paris Opera was reluctant to stage his work — he never heard the complete *Troyens* — Berlioz freely indulged his imagination. The result is that his tenor parts are all over the map, sometimes within the same role. They require legato, endless breath, high tessitura and flexibility, aspects of bel canto singing that one does not necessarily associate with the Romantic era.

They also require heroic measures. Enee, the warrior who founded Rome, enters the first



part of *Les Troyens* screaming bloody murder about the Trojan Horse. I defy anybody to sound other than stressed singing, "Du peuple et des soldats." Enee's famous "Inutiles regrets" opens and ends just as strenuously, though the lyrical andante is more reminiscent of the *Troyens* love duet, not included here, as Gheorghiu and Alagna already recorded a sensuous version of "Nuit d'ivresse" on their duets album.

I don't believe Alagna will ever sing Enee on stage (at least I hope not), but he is scheduled for *Cellini*, and that sounds like a good idea. A high, lyrical role that requires enormous charisma, once made viable by the young Nicolai Gedda, Cellini needs Alagna's juice and vocal sex appeal. The romance, written at the last minute for tenor Gilbert Duprez (high C from the chest), is gorgeously sung, while the famous "Sur les monts" ends with rapturous, lyrical vocalism.

This album should get you juiced up for the Berlioz birthday year. SFO mounts the non-operatic *Faust* this summer, a piece definitely calling for Rosenberg's imaginative staging style. Don't hope, however, to hear a voice as beautiful (or as French) as Alagna's anywhere except on compact disc. ▼

The buzz about Berlioz and Boulez

by Tim Pfaff

Dividing French composers into the innovators and the imitators doesn't leave that many in the middle. French music has always been, at some level, a thing apart — always a distinctive accent on the common musical language, and sometimes a new musical language. With an irony the French might savor, current CDs documenting the music of the true originals run the gamut from B to B — for that matter, from B-z to B-z.

They would be Berlioz and Boulez, without either of whom music would be an infinitely duller thing. For Sir Colin Davis, the world's preeminent Berlioz interpreter, it's been the "Berlioz Year" for the last two. The Berlioz Festival he staged with the London Symphony Orchestra (whose Principal Conductor he has been since 1995, when he replaced MTT) in September 2000 has provided the core recordings of the LSO Live series. The *Symphonie fantastique* CD (with the Overture to *Beatrice and Benedict* as filler), the only one that features the orchestra on its own, may be the best of lot.

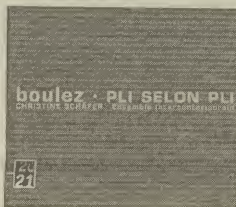
yond Davis' grasp at the time.

No one would make either claim about this latest, which testifies to the power only three decades of living with a piece can bring. The LSO plays with a finesse that confirms it as the greatest of London's five major orchestras. But what Davis gets out of them goes beyond top-flight playing to potent drama. There's a horrid beauty to the thing from the start, and it builds ineluctably to the protagonist's final, hallucinatory Dream of the Witches' Sabbath.

There are musical explanations for how Davis achieves this — the hair-trigger rhythmic shifts that unsettle expectations, the tilt of the balance toward the winds, the subtle tremor in the strings. But it's what Davis does as a dramatist that defies easy explanation.

"Un Bal" is a waltz wracked with foreboding so chilling that I could hardly wait for this creepy dance of death (of the protagonist's last hope for a response from his unknowing beloved) would end. The shepherd pipe in the third movement nearly out-Tristan *Tristan*, and clearly prefigures it. This is not a *fantastique* for the

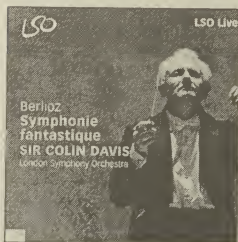
faint of heart, but no one who wants to encounter musicianship at its apex should miss it.



Bare essentials

Pierre Boulez has spent even longer living with his *Pli selon pli* (*Portrait de Mallarmé*), the signal difference being that he's been re-composing as well as rerecording it. What Boulez calls the work's final form, from 1989, has just become part of DG's indispensable 20/21 "music of our time" series. This third recording of gay composer Boulez's seminal work is also the finest, both at the sheer performance level and as a representation of the composer's finished thoughts about the piece. The 33

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Like the new *Les Troyens*, this new interpretation doesn't propose an interpretation radically different from that of Davis' first, in his Philips Berlioz cycle of 30 years ago. Even then, the work didn't lack for great recordings, though many took a tone-poem approach to it that either sensationalized or trivialized it. Davis staked out the Michael Steinberg position — that the piece is one of the most remarkable and individual first symphonies by any composer before or since. Some found the LP excessive, others a reach be-

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Beautiful to behold

Guy and Fischer beguile at Davies

by Philip Campbell

For the past fortnight, two exceptionally attractive and talented young guest artists have vied with Michael Tilson Thomas for the center of attention at Davies Symphony Hall.

Needless to say, the maestro held his own, but the brilliant debut of a handsome and dynamic pianist from France (live with it, Capitol Hill) certainly gave him a run for his money.



Guy showed passionate involvement

François-Frédéric Guy was born in 1969, so his first appearances in San Francisco do not qualify him as the latest piano prodigy on the international circuit. His interest in new and modern music, however, does make him a natural choice for musical partnership with MTT.

Their concert together was devoted entirely to the music of composer Sergei Prokofiev. This year marks the 50th anniversary of his death, on the same day and only 50 minutes before Joseph Stalin. The demise of the authoritarian butcher eclipsed the urbane writer's passing, just as other Russian composers had stolen his thunder during his lifetime.

Prokofiev had returned to Russia 17 years earlier, but Shostakovich (who never expatriated) was the reigning laureate, and Stravinsky had long since defused him of any modernistic shock value.

Try as he might to play the *enfant terrible*, Prokofiev was a classicist at heart, evidenced by the clarity and memorable melodic content of his scores. The concertos, ballets and chamber music would be enough to secure a cherished place in history, but the symphonies and operas are also important and uniquely beautiful. His later works (especially the cantatas) were blemished by a mandatory Soviet nationalism, yet even they were blessed by his lyrical inspiration.

The recent concerts opened with his seldom-heard *American Overture*, Opus 42. There is nothing particularly star-spangled about it, though it was written for a US commission. Busy and ingratiating with little development, it still has a very catchy motto that typifies the jazzy restlessness of the 1920s.

Tilson Thomas opted for the original orchestration for 17 players. His recording (no longer available) with the Los Angeles Philharmonic employed the full symphonic setting, but the reduced scoring is stronger. It served as a rip-roaring opener for an exciting evening.

Next came pianist Guy, and a breathtaking rendition of the Third Piano Concerto. Looking more personable but every bit as striking as the terrific photo on his Prokofiev sonatas CD, the gifted newcomer gave a note-perfect account that still conveyed a passionate involvement.

The passagework in the second movement, when the soloist plays against the big tune from the full orchestra, was amazing. The sheer dexterity and strength of Guy's performance was also marked by uncommon sensitivity. The prolonged and vocal ovation was deserved. Let us hope that he returns to Davies soon, and also plans a Bay Area recital.

The evening ended with another blockbuster, Prokofiev's dazzling Symphony No. 3 in C minor. Recycled from themes from the opera *The Fiery Angel*, the Third stands on its own two feet with remarkable cogency. It is an intense, almost physically threatening work, much like the disturbing opera. MTT coached a whirlwind performance that would have made the author proud and justified his modernist aspirations.

Touched by an angel

Last week, 19-year-old violinist Julia Fischer returned to Davies for her second appearance since her introduction with Herbert Blomstedt and the orchestra two years ago. She played the Mozart



Julia Fischer: willing to mature.

Violin Concerto in G major then, and I rejoiced in her willingness to make an understated debut.

So many young artists bite off more than they can chew stylistically. The concert circuit demands such bravura behavior from the unseasoned. Fischer showed she was willing to mature while displaying an exceptional talent.

This time around, management moved her into the big-guns repertoire. The Sibelius Violin Concerto is a wonderful piece that places great demands on an artist's stamina, but also requires interpretive insight. Fischer has the requisite energy and an amazingly strong and steady tone, but she lacks much personal understanding.

Her performance was beautiful to hear, but it never really got to the core of the work's emotions. Looking like an angel and playing like someone twice her size, she navigated every passage with aplomb, yet the results were unimpressive. I still foresee an important career for Fischer — she has the goods and the taste. She just needs a little more mileage on her.

The concert opened with the mildly improvisational *Phorion* by Lukas Foss, based on a Bach Prelude. Replete with gussied-up orchestration that includes bottles being broken in paper bags, the score might seem like a satire of the avant-garde if it weren't so darned good-natured. The title is from the Greek for "stolen goods," but Foss put enough of his own stamp on it to justify MTT's selection and the orchestra's rollicking presentation.

The program concluded with Copland's Third Symphony. It is not my favorite piece from a beloved composer, but it does contain the monumental "Fanfare for the Common Man," and there are many other moments of delight.

The orchestra raised the roof, and MTT was obviously pleased. He can't always give us the spiky Copland, but the Third has its moments, alongside the more familiar voice of the American populist. ▼

Boulez

◀ previous page

years he spent refining, rearranging and otherwise rewriting it have reduced it to only essential musical material, which makes it no harder to listen to than Webern.

This new version, featuring Boulez's own Ensemble Intercontemporain and the soprano Christine Schäfer, isn't just listenable, it's mesmerizing. Next to Berlioz's *Les Femmes d'Alger*, it's the driest of whites, but it's no less complex. Although it's music of supreme intelligence and craft, as it now unfolds, the only real difficulty for the listener is the sequence of Stéphane Mallarmé

poems on which its five movements are based. Schäfer imbues them with a limpid clarity that supplies all the "meaning" possible, but Boulez (a student of Messiaen's in the fullest sense) has produced true meditations on the difficult Symbolist verse that chooses illumination over explication.

It's music at its deepest working on poetry at its, and the result is revelatory and quietly ecstatic. After the impaling opening chord, the highly influential *Pli selon pli* (which takes its name from a Mallarmé poem Boulez doesn't include) begins its concentrated, refractory unfolding. If less extreme than the Berlioz, it's an equally rapt experience. ▼

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Polish links

'Leonardo da Vinci/Splendor of Poland'
at the Ca. Palace of the Legion of Honor

by Will Shank

This is Poland's cultural moment of glory in San Francisco. It was a veritable love-fest at the press preview of *Leonardo da Vinci and the Splendor of Poland*, where the Italian ambassador and the Polish consul from LA made reverential references to the Polish Pope. Museum Director Harry Parker, admittedly starstruck, called Leonardo da Vinci's "Lady with an Ermine," somewhat awkwardly, "one of the most beautiful paintings ever made in our world." The consul corrected him: "the most beautiful painting in the world!" There's a staggering line-up of more than 40 events during the three-month run of *Leonardo*, including everything from Polish films at Berkeley's Pacific Film Archive to Polish folk-dancers in the courtyard of the Legion to a formal costume ball at the Fairmont Hotel.

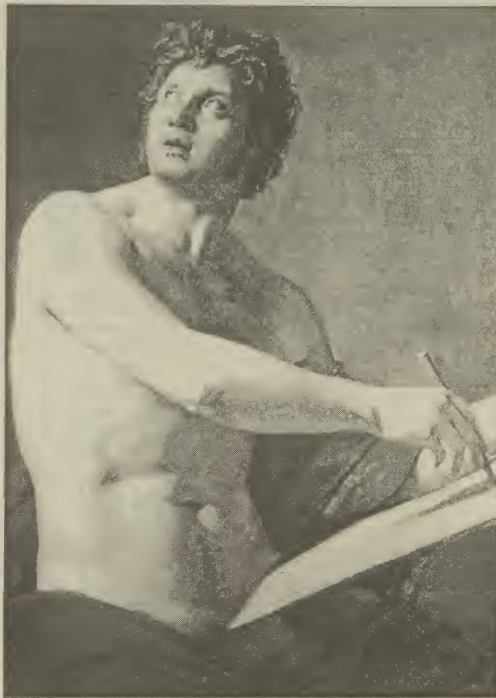
What's all the hoopla about? According to curator Lynn Orr, Poland is the geographical center of Europe (depending on where you put Russia), and it was once the cultural center as well. Given its strategic position during the many troubled centuries of conflict that formed present-day Europe, Poland was fought over, divided up, conquered, raped, pillaged, and virtually disappeared as a political entity for 150 years of the 19th and 20th centuries.

Many of the great paintings of Polish collections disappeared, too, and this exhibition is a celebration of the 21st-century triumph of Polish culture, battered but not beaten. A reading of the provenance of many of the paintings is telling: several of the greatest works on view (including the Leonardo) were plundered by the Nazis, only the tip of the iceberg of the cultural patrimony that disappeared from Poland during the German occupation of the '30s and '40s, never to be seen again.

Essentially a visual history of collecting and patronage in Poland (fleshed out in a handsome 327-page catalog), the exhibition begins with choice early Italian and Netherlandish works that found their way to Poland during its Golden Age. Unfortunately, as is often the case with fragile Old Masters, some works did not follow the entire tour. The catalog features Hans Memling's splendid triptych, *The Last Judgment*, of 1467-71 from the Gdansk National Museum. A view of Heaven and Hell that rivals anything by Memling's more famous contemporary, Hieronymus Bosch, the panel painting is also notorious for changing hands as diverse as those of Napoleon, Hitler and the curators of the Hermitage. It was shown at the first venue, the Milwaukee Art Museum, only. A small, exquisite panel, the "Mater Dolorosa" ("Madonna of the Sorrows") by Aelbrecht Bouts (ca. 1500), from the Czartoryski Museum in Cracow, here represents early Flemish painting proudly.

View from a terrace

Alone worth a trip to the Legion are the splendid cityscapes by Bernardo Bellotto. Known somewhat confusingly in Poland as "Canaletto," Bellotto was in fact the nephew of Antonio Canale,



Jean-Auguste-Dominique Ingres' "Academic Figure" (1801)

the Venetian painter of *vedute* (views) of the great cities of Europe. Bellotto, more widely traveled than the original Canaletto, was in residence in his final years at the court of the last King of Poland. Several of his 18th-century views of Baroque Warsaw, still in the collection of the Royal Castle there, are on view at the Legion. Paintings like 1773's "View of Warsaw from the Terrace of the Royal Castle" feature highly theatrical flickering sunlight on the precisely rendered buildings and inhabitants of the Polish capital. These canvases, too, had a circuitous journey from Napoleon's Paris to czarist Russia, Nazi Germany, and back home again.

A tour through the galleries yields an uneven smattering of highlights of art history, along with an introductory course in 19th-century Polish painting. Among the fine works by more familiar artists are a Rembrandesque "Portrait of an Old Woman" by one of Rembrandt's most gifted followers, Ferdinand Bol (from the National Museum in Gdansk), and a handsome 1891 portrait of Polish composer Paderewski by British-based painter Sir Lawrence Alma-Tadema, a commission by the musician, now in the National Museum in Warsaw. Paderewski was also Prime Minister in World War I and a champion of Polish independence. A curiosity piece is a study of a sexy male model in Jean-Auguste-Dominique Ingres' unfinished academic study, which was his qualifier for the *Prix de Rome* in 1801, when Ingres was still the student of Jacques-Louis David at Paris' Ecole de Beaux-Arts.

And then there is the star of the show, which is, amazingly, the only Leonardo da Vinci ever to be shown in California. "The Lady with an Ermine," from the Czartoryski Museum, was painted a

dozen years before the "Mona Lisa," sometime around 1490, for Duke Ludovico Sforza of Milan, whose mistress, the teenage Cecilia Gallerani, was a lady-in-waiting at the court where Leonardo was employed. The sleeky ermine, known for its fastidiousness, may be an allegory for the wholesomeness of the subject, or it may be an allusion to Ludovico's title, the Chivalric Order of the Ermine, an insignia from the King of Naples in 1488. The two faces together, gazing into the distance off the picture plane, are charged with psychological tension, and the painting has been referred to as "the first modern portrait," because of its ability to suggest inner thoughts through gestures and posture, unlike the stylized Renaissance poses of courtiers and patrons that preceded it.

The advantage for the Legion's visitors, who will have to peer through thick protective Plexiglas to view the "Lady," is that her image is less well-known than the Mona Lisa, who, with or without Plexiglas, is almost impossible to view without her baggage as a pop icon. Standing before this young lady, one ponders her thoughts and the tentativeness of the gesture of her over-large hand, which barely restrains her somewhat evil-looking pet. Leonardo's genius, in his use of the subtleties of light and dark as they play across the two figures, defies the necessities of modern security. Even if placing *Leonardo* over the title of the Polish exhibition is a transparent ploy to get visitors into the Legion, let them come. ▼

Through May 18 at the California Palace of the Legion of Honor. Tuesdays are free at the museum, but there is still a \$4 admission charge to see *Leonardo*. Info: (415) 863-3330.

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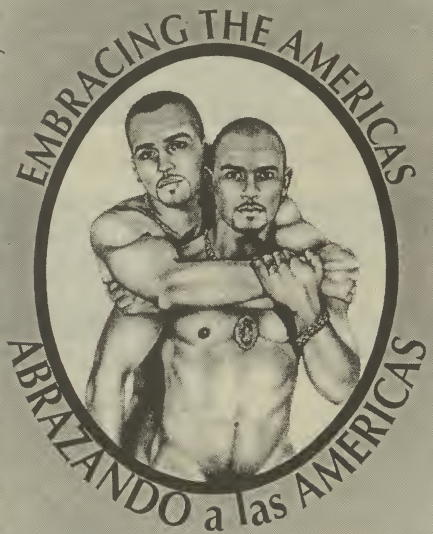
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Highlights & lowlights

Memorable moments in Oscar history

by Tavo Amador

The Academy Awards have been praised, derided, analyzed in the context of studio politics, money spent, and personal popularity. The awards ceremony itself, however, has generally been dismissed as dull. While the Oscar Show rarely rivals the Golden Globes as entertainment, it's had marvelous moments, comic and emotional.

Initially, the awards were presented at a private banquet. Soon, they were broadcast on radio. In 1953, they were first televised. Presenters, winners, losers, and entertainers have left memorable impressions.

Mae West and Rock Hudson created a sensation performing at the '57 awards. West reminded everyone that "It's not the men in your life that counts, it's the life in your men." They sang, "Baby, It's

Cold Outside," but her suggestive vamping caused Hudson to double up with laughter. They ended with a passionate kiss that made the audience roar.

Marlene Dietrich presented '51's Best Foreign Film award wearing a Christian Dior black dress slit to the thigh, flashed her famous gams, and became the most photographed star of the night. Perhaps Cher had that in mind when she awarded '85's Best Supporting Actor Oscar wearing Bob Mackie's infamous "Mohawk meets Dracula" drag, which got her on front pages everywhere.

After comics Martha Raye and Jimmy Durante mangled the names of '64's Best Documentary nominees, he told her to "act scholarly and dignified." Replied the bawdy, bisexual Raye, "It comes naturally to us Vassar girls." In '67, Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers presented the Best Writing Oscars. As they descended the

stairs, he twirled her around. The audience cheered, thinking it was impromptu. Rogers later admitted it had been rehearsed.

Two presenters created an impact at the '73 Awards, best remembered for the streaker flashing across the stage as David Niven was introducing Elizabeth Taylor. Quipped the debonair actor, "The only laugh that man will probably ever get is for showing off his shortcomings." Earlier, Katharine Hepburn, Oscar's most honored actress, made her sole appearance on the show, giving producer Lawrence Weingarten the Jean Hersholt Humanitarian Award. The reclusive legend acknowledged the thunderous reception, saying, "I'm glad I didn't hear anyone call out, 'It's about time!'" Later, Susan Hayward, fighting terminal cancer, presented the Best Actress statuette. Nolan Miller's glorious green gown hid Hayward's emaciated frame, and she wore a magnificent, copper-red wig. Fearing she would suffer a seizure, she cut short the ovation and announced Glenda Jackson as the winner. Shocked fans mourned her death just weeks later. James Stewart couldn't conceal his emotions when accepting a special Oscar for Gary Cooper in '60. His tearful speech inadvertently let the world know his friend was gravely ill.

William Holden and Barbara Stanwyck presented '77's Sound Award. Holden told the audience that in '39, he was about to be fired from *Golden Boy* when Stanwyck intervened. "Due to this lovely human being, I'm here tonight," Stunned, Stanwyck whispered, "Oh, Bill."

Frankly mistaken

Expectations have caused embarrassment. For the '32-'33 awards, Will Rogers ripped open the Best Director envelope and shouted, "Come up and get it, Frank!" Frank Capra rushed to the stage, only to discover the winner was Frank Lloyd, for *Cavalcade*. Rosalind Russell had no such excuse. Considered the heavy favorite for '47's Best Actress Award, she was out of her seat when Frederic March announced Loretta Young's name. Russell recovered by leading the applause for the winner. Lauren Bacall was less gracious. Clearly anticipating winning Best Supporting Actress for '96's *The Mirror Has Two Faces*, she failed to hide her shock at hearing Juliette Binoche's name



Joan Crawford accepts an Oscar from Maximilian Schell in 1962.

called.

Joan Crawford stole the '45 awards without being present. Claiming illness, she listened to the ceremony from home. When Charles Boyer announced her the Best Actress winner for *Mildred Pierce*, Crawford miraculously recovered, slipped into an elegant bedjacket, fixed her hair and makeup, then sat up in bed as the press snapped photos of the happy star. Her picture pushed every other winner off the front pages.

Crawford dominated the '62 awards in person. Co-star Bette Davis had been nominated for Best Actress in *Whatever Happened to Baby Jane?*, but Crawford had not been. Crawford arrived on the arm of classic Hollywood's gayest *caballero*, Cesar Romero, and, replying to a reporter's question about whom she had voted for, said, "The winner!" She had agreed to accept the Best Actress Award for three absent nominees. From backstage, she and Davis watched Maximilian Schell announce winner Anne Bancroft. Crawford sailed past her rival, murmuring, "Excuse me, I've got an Oscar to pick up," and beamed while reading Bancroft's thank-you speech. *Time* labeled her "the triumph of the evening."

Sisters Joan Fontaine and Olivia de Havilland were nominated for '41's Best Actress. When Ginger Rogers called Fontaine's name, the star froze, only rising when her older sibling commanded, "Get up there!" Five years later, de Havilland won her first Best Actress Award and famously avoided Fontaine's congratulatory embrace.

Acceptance speeches are unpredictable. '42's Best Actress

Greer Garson's thank you lasted 45 minutes, compelling presenter Joan Fontaine to ask for a chair. Barbra Streisand was more succinct. After tying for '68's Best Actress, she cooed, "Hello, Gorgeous," as Ingrid Bergman gave her the statuette. Bergman, a two-time Best Actress winner, won for Best Supporting Actress in '74's *Murder on the Orient Express*. "It's always nice to win an Oscar," she began, before apologizing to fellow nominee Valentina Cortese, whom she felt deserved it. "Please forgive me, Valentina, I didn't mean to."

Rex Harrison, '64's Best Actor for *My Fair Lady*, thanked "two fair ladies," stage co-star Julie Andrews and the screen Eliza, Audrey Hepburn. His graciousness contrasts sharply with Roberto Benigni's manic acceptance of the Best Actor and Best Screenplay awards for '97's *Life Is Beautiful*. With luck, that will never be repeated. Nor will the host find himself in the mess Jerry Lewis did during the '58 ceremony, which ended ahead of schedule. He had Mitzi Gaynor sing a second chorus of "There's No Business Like Show Business," then grabbed the baton, ordering presenters on stage to dance. Cary Grant & Ingrid Bergman, Dean Martin & Sophia Loren, Bob Hope & Zsa Zsa Gabor, Natalie Wood & Robert Wagner, Maurice Chevalier & Rosalind Russell began waltzing, with Martin grabbing an unclaimed Oscar for himself, before NBC pulled the plug.

Enjoy the March 23 show, which would have been Joan Crawford's 99th birthday. Who knows what mischief her spirit may cause? ▼

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Friends Gala

◀ Arts cover

hitch, but one year some smokers caused a stir by inadvertently setting fire to the pier.

"A board member came running out in his tuxedo and started putting out the fire with a fire-hose," says Mahoney. "That was pretty memorable."

The event has developed a loyal following over its 23-year history. Mahoney reports that an affectionate running joke among the longtime Academy of Friends volunteers who greet the guests is, "This started as a party of 25 people, and I've met all 70 of them."

Friends in need

Corporate sponsorships (including presenting sponsors AT&T, Aveda, Levi Strauss, Mer-

cedes Benz, Nordstrom and 300 Feet Out) enable the Academy of Friends to contribute 100% of its proceeds to the beneficiaries.

Funds from this year's event will support programs of the AIDS Emergency Fund, Bay Area Young Positives, CAL-PEP, Center for AIDS Services, Center for Human Development, Continuum, Larkin Street Youth Services, Maitri, Marin AIDS Project, New Conservatory Theatre, Positive Resource Center and Project Open Hand.

These beneficiaries were selected from more than 40 organizations that submitted proposals, but there's more involved than just waiting for the check. "The Academy of Friends is one of the best fundraising organizations in town, and the beneficiaries really work for their money," says Mike

next page ▶

Queer Hollywood

In & out of the spotlight

by Jim Nawrocki

Behind the Screen: How Gays and Lesbians Shaped Hollywood, 1910-1969 by William J. Mann; Penguin, \$16

In his well-received 1998 book *Wisecracker: The Life and Times of William Haines, Hollywood's First Openly Gay Star*, William J. Mann examined the flamboyant life of one of Hollywood's most intriguing early screen personalities. Mann moves the camera out, so to speak, for a wider view of gay and lesbian contributions to Hollywood in *Behind the Screen: How Gays and Lesbians Shaped Hollywood, 1910-1969*.

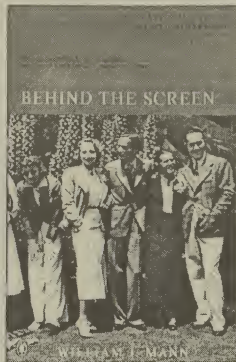
Mann examines not only gay and lesbian stars such as Haines, Marlene Dietrich, Clifton Webb, and Rock Hudson, he also delves into the lives and careers of queer directors (among them George Kukor and Dorothy Arzner) and of set and costume designers.

Much has already been written about the Hollywood queer set from the 1950s and later decades, but Mann manages to review this territory with a fresh perspective. What makes this history particu-

larly appealing, however, is the light that he sheds on the gay and lesbian culture of Hollywood's beginnings. It's easy to forget what Hollywood was like at the dawn of the film age, and there are many small details that surprise, such as the fact that California sunshine was a great technical asset in "the days before arc lamps and indoor studios." In these days of computer-generated animation, it's hard to imagine that movies were once so low-tech.

Those early days were also characterized by a pronounced split between the queer and queer-friendly performers, and the working-class, macho cameramen and technicians who worked alongside them. This split, Mann points out, was engendered not only by the gay/straight distinction, but by class differences as well, and Mann's description of these class tensions is illuminating.

Mann recreates a time and place with a remarkable level of specificity. The narrative is graced with ample recollections from many of early Hollywood's key players, and their voices come through the decades with vibrancy, wit, and even a certain amount of gossipy delight. Discussing the



career of lesbian star Lilyan Tashman, for example, Irene Mayer Selznick, the wife of David O. Selznick, says, "When Lilyan had some drinks, it was best not to go in the powder room with her. I did once, and was never so startled in my life. I'd never seen anything like it — couldn't believe it was happening. Didn't know it ever happened."

The book also examines the history of gays in Tinseltown during the Dark Ages of the McCarthy hearings, and during the '50s and '60s, as the studio era ended and America itself underwent an unprecedented cultural transformation. ▼

Between the lines

A love affair with words in 'Stone Reader'

by Robert Julian

The world of documentary filmmaking can be strange and wonderful, especially when it produces amazing gems like *Stone Reader*, written and directed by Mark Moskowitz. As a young man, Moskowitz discovered a book called *The Stones of Summer* through a rave review in *The New York Times* published in 1972. He bought the book immediately, but did not read it until 1998. His subsequent passion for the novel caused him to search for other works by its author, Dow Mossman. But there were none.

Moskowitz developed an obsession for learning more about the brilliant author, and discovering why his literary output started and stopped with one book. *Stone Reader* could just have easily have been titled *Tracking Down Mossman*, because this is the odyssey at the heart of the film. But no title could adequately convey the simple eloquence of Moskowitz's work. *Stone Reader* is a motion picture about



Director Mark Moskowitz (left) follows his passion for an obscure novel.

people who love to read, people who write, and the bond that develops between readers who share a particular enthusiasm for one book. Anyone who has been moved to tears by a work of fiction, or who has carried a particular novel with

them for many years, will be amazed by the treasures contained in *Stone Reader*. It is a unique and wonderful motion picture. ▼

Opens Friday.

Friends Gala

◀ previous page

Smith, Executive Director of the AIDS Emergency Fund.

"We're committed to finding 50 volunteers, selling 100 Mercedes raffle tickets and 250 of the raffle-ticket books for trips to Alaska, Australia and Hawaii," says Smith. "So all of our Board and key volunteers have stepped up to the plate and have been in ticket-selling mode."

The AIDS Emergency Fund provides grants to low-income people disabled by HIV or AIDS

who can't pay rent or medical expenses. It paid out \$1.4 million in grants to 2,700 clients last year, but a dramatic drop-off in government, foundation and corporate funding has taken its toll.

"We need to raise a little over a million dollars each year," says Smith, whose agency sees 400-500 new clients each year, but is now forced to turn down requests for repeat grants. "We stand to make as much as \$40,000 from the Academy of Friends, which is a tremendous amount for our organization."

"The best part of the whole thing is giving money to the ben-

eficiaries," says Van Leuven.

"I tell people that you have to experience the Gala to know how incredible it is," says Mahoney. "The party, the food, the wine, it's worth every dollar. And then to realize that every dollar goes directly to the beneficiaries, that's really incredible." ▼

Academy of Friends Oscar Night Gala, Sun., March 23, 5 p.m.-Midnight, Fort Mason Ctr., SF. Tickets (\$200): www.academyoffriends.org; Under One Roof, 549 Castro St.; (415) 995-9890

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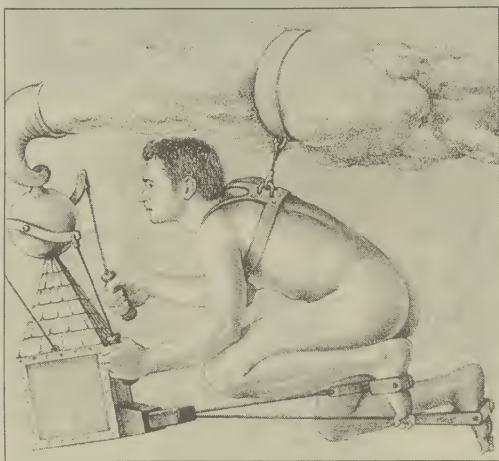
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OUT & ABOUT



"Imagination," color pencil and gouache on toned paper, 2002, by Michael Bergt at John Pence Gallery, 750 Post St., with opening reception Thursday, March 27. Phone 441-1138.

Calendare by Mark Mardon

Oscars 'n' jazz

If your idea of the height of gay culture is being decked out in a penguin suit, mingling with gaggles of other well-heeled penguins, all stepping out in style and preening like peacocks, surrounded by posturing drag divas and nearly buck-naked "living statues," then by all means make your way to the 23rd Annual Academy of Friends Gala this Sunday, March 23, 2003 at Fort Mason Center's Festival Pavilion.

As you know, this deluxe Oscar® party, running from 5 p.m. to midnight, with big screens galore in special theme areas, raises funds for lots of worthy organizations, including the AIDS Emergency Fund, Bay Area Young Positives, CAL-PEP (Alameda County), Center for AIDS Services (Alameda County), the Center for Human Development (Contra Costa County), Continuum, Larkin Street Youth Services, Maitri, the Marin AIDS Project (Marin County), New Conservatory Theatre, Positive Resource Center, and Project Open Hand. So as you're sampling the gourmet delicacies and vintage wines, shopping for objects d'art, cruising other penguins and so on, know that your \$200 entry fee might not get you laid, but almost certainly will bring you good karma points.

In the East Bay, at Oakland's Paramount Theatre (2025 Broadway), Donna Sachet is doing her own number for the Oscar® broadcast. "The Academy Gala Benefit" — in which you are The Star! — takes place Sunday, March 23, beginning at 3:30 p.m. for the foreplay, with the big screen madness starts promptly at 5 p.m. It all benefits the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.

Here too you get to sample a splendid buffet and get toasted on fine wines and Pearl Vodka as you watch the live simulcast from Hollywood on big screen. After you trail down the Red Carpet entrance, past the buffet and bars in the lobby, you'll be treated to the Donna Sachet & Co. opening production number. Ms. Sachet will be serving up other prizes and surprises during commercial breaks, and there will be a silent auction of Hollywood memorabilia. Tickets for this gig are \$75 (\$50 per person is tax deductible), or \$50 for groups of 10 (\$25 per person is tax deductible). Call 510-267-9699 or surf www.academygala.com

Other Oscar® doings include Hayward Council Member Kevin Dowling's 6th annual bash at the Hill and Valley Club, 1108 B. St. in Hayward, from 5-9 p.m., with a pasta feast by Hayward Firefighters Local 1909. Tickets are \$25 each, \$50 per couple. Call Barbara Sacks at 510-783-8176 or email kdforcouncil@aol.com

In downtown San Jose, The Gay Pride Celebration Committee is putting on their Oscar® bash at Capitol Club Athletics, 196 North Third St. There will be a drag celebrity look-alike contest and more hors d'oeuvres. Tickets are \$60. Call 408-278-5563.

Jazz note

This spring's SFJazz program earns a big Wow! It opens this Friday, March 21 at Herbst Theatre, with the Marcus Robert Trio, and continues into July with stellar names such as the Herbie Hancock Quartet (Palace of Fine Arts Theatre, March 28), the Kenny Burrell Quartet (Herbst Theatre, April 6), Ken Nordine (YBCA Forum, April 13), Joshua Redman (Palace of Fine Arts, May 3), the Jim Hall/Charlie Haden Duo (YBCA Theater, May 30), the Dave Brubeck Quartet (Masonic Auditorium, June 13) and my favorite, João Gilberto (Masonic Auditorium, July 26). It ain't exactly a gay line-up, but jazz is truly queer in the way it seduces everyone.

For program details and tickets, call 415-788-SFJF (7353), or visit SFJazz online at www.sfjazz.org. ▼

Fri 21

Cedric Brown

@ Jon Sims Center

Jazz musician and AIRspace artist-in-residence Cedric Brown performs "I Swing Like That," a concert inspired by the lives of black gay musicians Billy Strayhorn and Andy Bey. Vocalist Brown will explore how identity expresses itself through the stories of jazz standards and original music, accompanied by the 1150 Trio (Elise Giancola, Jory Cunningham, and Glen Iwaoka). Post-performance discussion with artist. \$5-\$10 sliding (NOTAFLOF). 8pm. 1519 Mission St. (btwn 11th St. & S. Van Ness). Tix/info: 554-0402; www.jon-simsctr.org

'Dirty Poole' @ YBCA

"Dirty Poole: the Films of Wakefield Poole" concludes with *Take One* (1977). Poole's most artistically complex work, an experimental docudrama about eight men, their lifestyles, professions and sexual fantasies. Partially filmed at the Nob Hill Theater. Preceded by Stars (1978), raw silent footage of a SF party, complete with dreadful drag, handlebar mustaches, and glimpses of Sylvester. \$6 (\$3 students/seniors/members). Two screenings: 7pm & 9:15pm. Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, Screening Room, 701 Mission St. (at 3rd St.). Tix/info: 978-ARTS; YerbaBuenaArts.org

Other Cinema @ ATA Gallery

Other Cinema hosts local hero Scott Stark and his treasure-trove of home movies scrounged from flea markets, estate sales, & second-hand shops. Free slides from abandoned family collections. \$5. 8pm reception. 992 Valencia St. Info: 824-3890.

'MAX TGIF' @ Metro

The Men's Associated Exchange (MAX) presents "MAX TGIF," the gay fraternal group's popular after-work cocktails and socializing for members and guests. Meet new friends and make business contacts. 6-9pm. Upstairs at Metro, 16th & Market.

REACH workshop

@ AHP Services Center

The REACH Program presents "Getting the Sex and Affection We Want: A Workshop." Take steps to maintain a healthy sexuality. Create a "roadmap" to intimacy. For gay and bisexual men regardless of HIV status. Free. 6:30-9:30pm. 1930 Market St. RSVP: 476-6448, ext 1.

'Sprout'

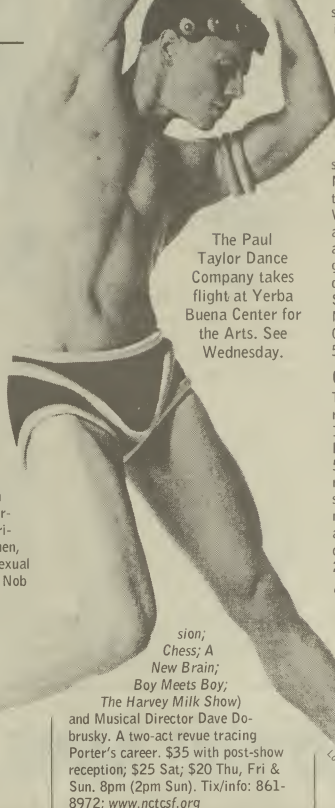
@ Catharine Clark Gallery

Just opened: "Sprout — An Exhibition Celebrating New Growth," a group show featuring works by 13 artists, including Timothy Cummings, Sandow Birk, Kara Maria, Tag Team, Nina Katchadourian and more, with DVD Projects curated by Reuben Lorcher-Miller, and staff works by Andrea Antonaccio, Jackie Perez Gratz, and Anna Rainer. Thru April 19. 49 Geary St., 2nd floor. Info: 399-1439; www.cclarkgallery.com

Sat 22

'Red, Hot & Cole' @ NCTC

Opening night: The New Conservatory Theatre Center (NCTC) continues its 4th "In Concert" season with *Red, Hot & Cole*, a musical revue of songs by Cole Porter, with Stage Director George Quick (*The Last Session*; Pas-



The Paul Taylor Dance Company takes flight at Yerba Buena Center for the Arts. See Wednesday.

sion;

Chess; A

New Brain;

Boy Meets Boy;

The Harvey Milk Show)

and Musical Director Dave Do-brusky. A two-act revue tracing Porter's career. \$35 with post-show reception; \$25 Sat; \$20 Thu, Fri & Sun, 8pm (2pm Sun). Tix/info: 861-8972; www.nctc.org

'A-A-America!'

@ EXIT on Taylor

Opening night: Crowded Fire Theater company presents the American Premiere production of British playwright Edward Bond's *A-A-America!*, a nightmare burlesque of the past, present and future of America's race issues. Directed by Christine Young. A sharp outsider take on this country's legacy of scapegoating and racism. \$10-\$25 regular; \$25 gala opening night. 8pm Thu-Sat, thru April 12. 277 Taylor (at Eddy). Tix: 675-5995; www.crowdedfire.org

SF Hiking Club

@ San Andreas Fault

Join other outdoors lovers for a Los Troncos, Monte Bello & San Andreas Fault Hike. Enjoy a visit to geological formations that are evidence of seismic activity, followed by pleasant wooded loops of rolling hills. It's a moderate 8-10-mile hike. Meet 8:45am under the large Safeway sign at Market & Dolores. Info: 487-6410; www.sfhiking.com

'Bent' @ Jezebel's Joint

DJ Donimo presents "Bent," a queer rock dance party featuring indie, post-punk, punk and electro sounds. Free. b4 10:30pm; \$5 after. 21+ w/ID. 510 Larkin St. (at Turk). Info: www.geocities.com/clubbent

'Metropolis' @ Space 550

Gus presents "Metropolis," a dance party with DJs Paulo and Jason G. MR JonP returns with "Transology," the second CD to his mix collection, packed with powerful progressive dance music. Epic Records celebrates the release of *One Heart*, the new album from Celine Dion. \$20 admission (\$15 b4 11pm). 10pm-6am. 550 Barneveld. Info: www.guspresents.com

Sun 23

'Embracing the Americas' @ EROS

EROS and Aguilas present "Embracing the Americas," celebrating the sexual health of our gay, bisexual and transgender Latin brothers and sis-

ters. Four major Latino agencies serving gay/bi Latin men — Aguilas, Proyecto ContraSIDA Por Vida, Instituto Familiar de la Raza, and Hermanos de Luna y Sol — along with the dance club Futura. Live performances by Carla Clyne, Taina and Celia. Futura DJs pump out Latin Rhythms. Exhibit of sexy, provocative images by LA artist Hector Silva. Raffle prizes. Refreshments. Ask questions about sexual health from bilingual health professionals. Be tested by City Clinic. Get involved in your community. Free. 1-3:30pm. 2051 Market St.

'Laugh-n-Jam'

@ Bench & Bar, Oakland

"Laugh-n-Jam," an evening of laughs and music to benefit the San Francisco AIDS foundation, presented by the National AIDS Marathon Training Program volunteers. Local artists and comedians. Win prizes, hotel stays, dinners. Silent auction. No-host bar and food. Stay after to watch the Oscars® on the giant screen TV. \$7-10 donation at door. 4-8pm. Bench & Bar, 120 11th St., Oakland. Two blocks from Lake Merritt Bart station, Across from Oakland Museum on Oak St. Info: 510-444-2266

GLS @ Point Reyes

Two hikes with Gay & Lesbian Sierrans. For the Coast Trail hike (about 10 miles), carpools leave El Cerrito Plaza BART at 8:45am; call 510-558-9614 or 415-334-2134 for info; rain cancels. For the moderately strenuous Point Reyes hike-through, meet at Safeway (Church & Market) at 8:30am or at Bear Valley visitor center at 10am. Info: Renee at 415-282-4886; sfbay.sierracub.org/GLS

'Hyena Comedy All-Stars'

@ Double Play B&G

Hyena Comedy Institute presents the "Hyena Comedy All-Stars," stand-up comics and comic singer/songwriters Shannon Kokoska, Jenny Pritchett, Greg Koster, Shelly Stewart, Phil Ricalfort, Amy Perkel, Jennifer Jerutis, Sue Clark, and Grace Walcott. "Laugh 'till you pee!" Full bar.

Parking available. \$7. 8pm. Double Play Bar & Grill, 2401 16th St. (at Bryant). Tix/info: 821-3601.

'Sundance Saloon'

@ Space 550

SF's premier country western dance event presents two-stepping and line dancing every Sunday for the GLBTQ community and friends. \$5. 6-7:30pm dance instruction; 7:30-11pm open dancing. 550 Barneveld. Info: www.space550.com

'ReleaseSF' @ 1015 Folsom

DJ superstars Paul van Dyk and Jerry Bonham cut loose with a special edition of "ReleaseSF." Van Dyk is touring in support of his CD/DVD *Global* (Mute Records), an overview of his musical career of the past decade. \$25 release. 10pm-6am. 21+ w/ID. 1015 Folsom St. Info: Line: 674-9208. Tix: www.groovetickets.com

Mon 24

'QComedy' @ The Center

"QComedy Showcase," hosted by Ray Ferrer, with Amy Boyd, Lane Douglas, Regina Stoops, Reanne Roads, Guy Branum, Lori Bradley, Doug Holclaw and Bridget Schwartz. \$8-\$15 sliding. Doors open 7:30pm; show at 8pm prompt. Tix: 865-5633; www.harveymilk.org. Info: www.QComedy.com

Spencer Day

@ The Plush Room

Up-and-coming singer/band leader Spencer Day returns to this former speakeasy to perform his unique style of jazz standards and original compositions. \$15 plus 2-drink minimum. 8pm. Also May 20-25. The York Hotel, 940 Sutter St. (near Leavenworth). Tix: 885-2800.

ARTworkSF @ Hotel Cosmo

ARTworkSF presents "Visual Voice," an evening of poetry, music, art and wine tasting at SF's newest arts hotel. Performances by Opal Palmer Adisa (folk tradition of the Caribbean along with tales from Africa and the African

American experience), Herman Berlanti (Director of the National Poetry Association), Delia Tomino Nakayama, Christine Beyer, COPUS and more. Hosted by April Martin Chartrand. \$12 adv; \$15 door. 7-9pm. 761 Post St. (at Jones). Tix/info: 673-8080; artworks.com; www.hotel-cosmo.com

Guitar Festival @ Grace Cathedral

Opening night: "Stained Glass & Steel Strings," a five-evening guitar festival featuring outstanding practitioners of the art. Tonight: Briand Gore & Peter Finger. Tue: Peppino D'Agostino & David Tanenbaum. Wed: Alex De Grassi & bassist Michael Manning. Thu: Doyle Dykes & Chris Proctor. Fri: Pierre Bensusan & Laurence Juber. \$28 per show. 7:30pm. 1100 California St. Info: 749-6355; www.gracecathedral.org

Tue 25

'The AIDS Show'

@ YBCA Screening Room
Theatre Rhinoceros presents "The AIDS Show: Artists Involved with Death and Survival," a film by Peter Adair and Rob Epstein. In 1984, under the direction of Leland Moss, more than 20 Bay Area artists came together at Theatre Rhino to address a growing concern about AIDS in the gay community. It was the first theatrical response to the AIDS epidemic in the world, and served as a defining moment for The Rhino. When the show was revised and remounted in 1985, Adair and Epstein documented the process in an award-winning film. Post-show discussion with Epstein and cast members. \$40. 8pm. Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, Screening Room, 701 Mission St. (at 3rd St). Tix/info: 861-5079; www.therhino.org

Opie Bellas

@ The Plush Room

Jazz Singer Opie Bellas performs with her sophisticated style, quick wit, and elegant choice of material. Her latest album, *Live for Life*, features chamber orchestra and voice. \$20 plus 2-drink minimum. 8pm. York Hotel, 940 Sutter St. Tix: 885-2800.

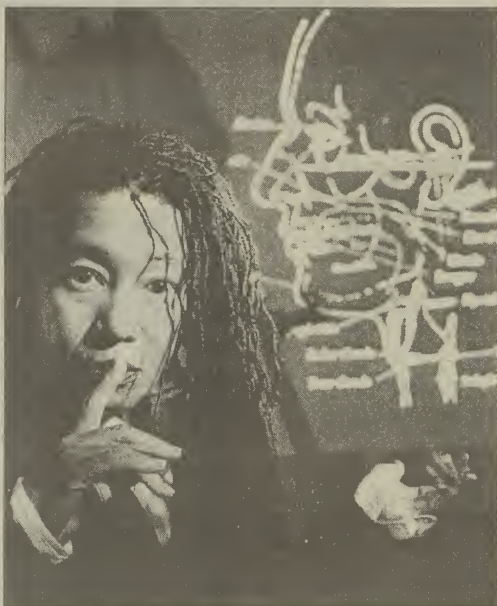
Wed 26

Int'l Museum of Women @ Presidio Officers Club

International Museum of Women presents: "Culture and Gender Wars in the Military," a presentation by Captain Rosemary Mariner, Ret. As the first female aviator to fly tactical jet aircraft (1975), and the first woman to command a Naval fleet jet aircraft squadron (1990), Capt. Mariner will share her experiences returning from the Gulf War into the crossfire of the culture wars. Held in conjunction with the exhibition "Women of the World: A Global Collection of Art," featuring works created by women from 177 countries. Each piece is a meditation on women's roles, hopes, dreams and fears. 7pm. 50 Moraga Ave. Info: 561-5500; www.atthepresidio.org

Paul Taylor Dance @ YBCA

San Francisco Performances presents the Paul Taylor Dance Company, now in its 49th year, in Program A (first of three), featuring "Offenbach Overtures" (music by Offenbach), "A Field of Grass" (songs sung by Harry Nils-



Pamela Z gets wired for voice in "Voci" at ODC Theater. See Thursday.

son), and "Promethean Fire" (music by J.S. Bach). \$35 & \$49 (3 programs for \$95 & \$132). 8pm. Thru April 6. Yerba Buena Center for the Arts Theater, 700 Howard St. (at 3rd St). Tix/info: 392-4400; www.performances.org

Stacey Kent

@ The Plush Room

Basking in rave reviews from her shows in NYC and London, jazz vocalist Stacey Kent performs for the first time in SF. "In Love Again" is her tribute to Richard Rodgers, drawing on his songbook. Accompanying her is a quintet of musicians including her husband Jim Tomlinson on tenor sax. \$30 plus 2-drink minimum. 8pm. Wed-Sat; 3pm Sun. Thru April 5. The York Hotel, 940 Sutter St. (near Leavenworth). Tix: 885-2800.

Halloween hearing

@ City Hall

Supervisor Bevin Dufty chairs the City Services Committee's open hearing on Halloween in the Castro. 6pm. Board Chambers. Info: 554-6987.

'Billy Elliot' @ The Center

Billy Elliot will be shown at Movie Night on The Center's BIG screen! Free admission, hot popcorn, cold drinks. Movie Night happens every last Wednesday of the month. Doors open at 6:30pm; movie starts at 7pm. Come early. Captioned for the deaf and hard of hearing. SF LGBT Community Center, 1800 Market (at Octavia). Info: 865-5555.

Thu 27

'The Man I Might Become' @ Books Inc.

Reading & booksigning with Kevin Bentley, Felice Picano, Bill Hayes and other contributors to *The Man I Might Become: Gay Men Write About Their Fathers*, a new nonfiction anthology nominated for a Lambda 2003 literary award. Free. 7:30pm. 2275 Market St. (at 16th St). Info: 864-6777.

Pamela Z @ ODC Theater

Composer/performer/audio artist Pamela Z performs "Voci," a solo multimedia work with video by Jeanne Finley and John Muse. Z juxtaposes Italian Opera with Tuvan throat singing and Bulgarian song, creating a rich mix of vocal colors while challenging Euro-centric views of Western Classical music. She triggers samples with light sensors and a gesture controller called the BodySynth™. \$12 Thu; \$15 Fri & Sat. March 27-29 & April 3-5. 8pm. 3153 17th St. (at Shotwell). Tix/info: 863-9834; www.odctheater.org

Drunken Monkey @ Venue 9

Footloose at Venue 9 presents a comedy extravaganza to benefit Venue 9's search for a new space. Tonight featuring "The Best of Drunken Monkey plus AirPocket. Sketch and improv comedy and edgy, twisted adult-oriented humor. All proceeds go to Footloose. \$16-\$25 sliding. 8pm. 252 Ninth St. (btwn Folsom & Howard). Tix/info: 289-2000; www.venue9.com

'DIY' @ Spanganga Gallery

"Make art happen or DIY trying" — An Independent Artist How-to Workshop Series. Tonight: Get a space and put on a show - The details on running your own art space. Speakers: Sean Kelly (Spanganga); Mary Alice Fry (Footloose); Lil Mike Martzke (formerly of Komotion Int'l, promoter of Hip Hop Film Festival); and Terrance Alan (queer erotic film maker, proprietor of Club 220, chair of the Late Night Coalition). Moderated by Michael Vavrick. \$5. 6:30-8:30pm. 3376 19th St. (at 19th & Mission). Info: www.spanganga.org

'Faith' @ 715 Harrison

Join resident DJs Blackstone, Jason G, Twist and Big Mike at the largest gay 18+ nightclub in Northern California. House to Hip Hop, Trance to Disco. Take part in "The Drag Races," hosted by HollyGram and sidekick Kitty Kunt, in which five volunteers from the audience are stripped to their underwear and given 15 minutes to put on makeup, choose a wardrobe and perform a drag number. \$100 awarded to winner by audience applause. \$12. 9:30pm-2:30am. 715 Harrison St. (at 3rd St). Info: 905-4100; www.faithsf.com

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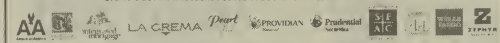
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In conjunction with celebrating the music of Sir Elton John, SFGMC is pleased to partner with the ELTON JOHN AIDS FOUNDATION to raise funds for Hazareth House, an AIDS shelter for women and children in South Africa. All funds raised by SFGMC, up to \$10,000, will be matched by a grant from ELAF. When you purchase your tickets to BEYOND THE YELLOW BRICK ROAD, please give generously - and tax-deductably! - to the Hazareth House Fund.



Gary Wane Farris, Kevin Dozier, Paul Araquistain, and Rob LeVan belt out snappy Porter songs in "Red, Hot & Cole" at New Conservatory Theatre Center. See Saturday.



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Golden Dildeaux nominees announced

by Mister Marcus

The Golden Gate Guards MC began distributing ballots for the Annual Golden Dildeaux Awards taking place at the Eagle Tavern on Saturday, April 19. Ballots at \$1 each are available at Daddy's, the Eagle, The Edge, Marlena's, the Powerhouse, Mr. Leona's and the Turf Club in Hayward.

The world's only sex awards have proven to be a hilarious spree when everyone's dirty laundry is aired in an over-the-top show emceed by Donna Sachet and Lenny Broberg. You can expect an evening of hilarious laughs where no one's feelings are spared. Remember to vote early and often. As always, the proceeds are to benefit the AIDS Emergency Fund. The nominees are:

Punchboard: Chico Garza, Frank Vasconcellos, Michael Schaefer.

Top of the Year: Tony Koester, David Tejada, Tom Rodgers, Alan Selby.

Golden Globes: Kevin Kropp, Chris Altman, Julian Marshburn, Scott Brogan.

Nature Boy: Gil Beaulieu, Robert Larabee, Sam Dixon, Mauricio Rivera.

Golden Arm: Roy @ Powerhouse: Carl Haack, Alan Selby, Ken Ferraris.

Best Male Performance by a Female Impersonator: Snatch, Donna Sachet, Tish Crabb, Tiger Lily.

Paper Wedding Dress: Ray Tilton, Bob Brunson, Mario Torrigino.

Voyeur of the Year: Lou Conrad, Patti LaBelle, Mike Polansky, Jimmy @ Daddy's.

Sliver Lips: Andy Anderson, Mr. Marcus, Jack Garcia, Ray Tilton.

Leap Frog: Mike Parsons, Warren Williams, Bob Brunson, Michael Schaefer.

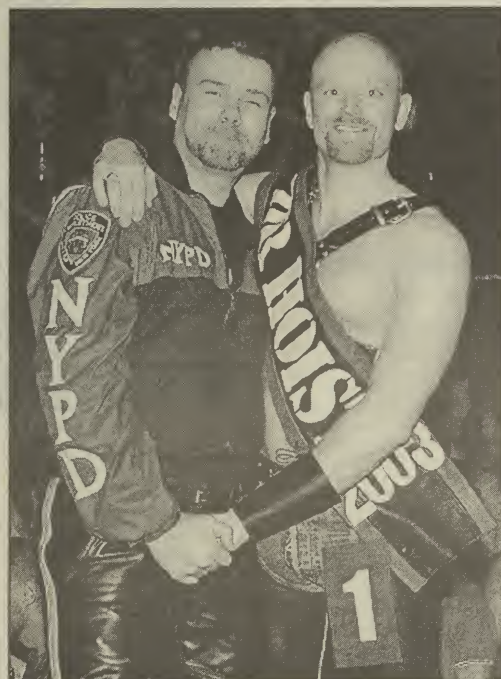
Cobweb: "Mama" Reinhardt, Chuck Ross, Brian Butler, Karl Schuck, Tim Wong.

Best Performance in a 3-Way: Dax, Mike, Smitty; Bill & Ralph; Michael, Jeff, David; Dave Barker and Den Calkins.

Prince of Piss: Scott King, Omar Moseley, Jeff Minster, Werner Tillinger.

Tea Room Commando: Chico Garza, Don "Ho" Tse, Tim Wood.

Divine Miss M: Paul Lester, Glen Fidi, Dan Alexander and Brian "The Boo".



John Pendel, right, was chosen Mr. Hoist Leather 2003 (London) in that world-famous bar a few weeks ago. He advances to IML 2003 in May. With him at left is Guy Irwin, owner of The Hoist Bar.

Size Queen: Chris Altman, "Charlemagne", Michael Gagne, "Snatch".

Best Female Performance by a Male Impersonator: Carlton Paul, Donna Sachet, Queen Gary @ Edge, Suzie Wong.

Cocksucker of the Year: Tom Galante, Don "Ho" Tse, Scott Brogan.

Dick of Death: Louie Toro, Phil Garabedian, Michael Proctor, Bernard Venter.

Pushy Bottom: Carlton Paul (write-in), Pushy Phyllis, John Caldera, Rick Cooper.

Boot Licker: John Bernal, James "Hobbit" Harring, Michael Schaefer, Richy @ Daddy's.

The Golden Boy: Michael Schaefer, Jack Garcia, Peter Jackson, Ryan de la Cruz.

Wild night at the SF Zoo

No one knew what to expect when it was announced that the 3rd Annual Breast Cancer Emergency Fund dinner would be held

in the Leaping Lemur Hall at the San Francisco Zoo last Friday night, March 14th. Long-tailed, huge eyes, the nocturnal arboreal primates were nowhere to be seen. Only the squawky Flamingoes greeted the attendees as they arrived inconvenienced only by a drizzly rain.

Inside, almost 300 of the faithful showed up to consume the "almost gourmet" fare, and all were entertained by the fabulous Sharon McNight, Shannon Day, David Williams and Donna Sachet. Several members of Mama's

Family were given Unsung Hero Certificates and in the process, some \$9,000 was raised for the cause. Mama was dressed in a fabulous new outfit and the whole evening was a scintillating exercise in love and benevolence. Thanks to all the volunteers who made the entire evening a great success!

More sashes & titles

The feeder contests to IML
next page ►

EVENTURES IN LEATHER

Thursday, March 20

Mr. September 2004 will be chosen at 2130 tonight at the Powerhouse. Judges: Didier Carnag-nolle, Doug Mezzacoppo, J.S. Geras and Donna Sachet.

Friday, March 21

Exiles of SF enjoy a triple threat tonight with elections for new officers, dancers from Wet Dream Lesbuesque and Knaughty Knots & Rudimentary Ropes by "T" at the Women's Building. Parking almost impossible.

Saturday, March 22

SF Boys of Leather present a Pre-Oscar party at Daddy's at 2000 with a beer/soda bust, raffles, and entertainment all to benefit Under One Roof.

Sunday, March 23

The 15 Association men are horny so they're having a play party at 933 Harrison today. Doors open from 1300 to 1500, play 'til 1700. \$10 for members, \$15 for guests. Call 673-0452 for details.

Wednesday, Mar 26

Leather Buddies at 933 Harrison. You know the rules: leather, levis, boots, latex, uniforms. No cologne! Call 777-HEAD.

Thursday, March 27

Mr. October 2004 will be chosen at the Powerhouse tonight, 2130. Judges: Julian Marshburn, Ross Dierking, J.S. Geras and Bob Brunson.

Saturday, March 29

Mr. Los Angeles Leather 2003 contest at the El Rey Theatre on Wilshire Blvd. Tonight. Daddy Don steps aside after a great year!

PORN

Global warming

by John F. Karr

I couldn't wait to see Mark Dalton in a movie. His recent blitz of the gay glossies had captivated me. Numerous magazine covers twinkled with his sunny smile and flirting eyes, while inside double-page spreads positively billowed with the rolling swells of his muscular topography, an unending cascade of rotundity. From bulging biceps and burgeoning pecs, to headcrusher thighs, and most especially, immense and meaty buttocks, Dalton's the last word in globosity. Reminds me of my mother's matzo-balls: moist, juicy, and really solid. My mother didn't like this in a matzo-ball. She wanted airy puffs, like her mother's. But I liked their weight, as I like the mass of Dalton's cushy voluptuousness. At the tender age of 22, somewhat precociously at the peak of what his website bio calls his "muscle maturity," Dalton is one succulent babe.

Mark debuted with a couple muscle-worship videos in 2000, keeping his genitals hidden. They came out soon enough, in two more physique videos that his website coyly claims let him exhibit his wild side "by pleasing himself in that special way." Then he made an overt appeal to gay viewers by signing up with Pacific Sun Entertainment. Which is not to say he's making gay movies. Only that he's appearing in them. For the present, he's strictly a solo. Even there, his success in pleasing himself "in that special way" seems dependent on the skill of the director at hand.

Director Jett Blakk's movies — low-budget, loosely put together, and always looking rather dashed off — typically have a daffy pizzazz. Look, for instance, at the loopy way Blakk dealt with the requirements of *Ranch Hand Muscle*: a top-billed star who wouldn't appear with the other players, and two obviously inherited (and very fake-looking) sets, a stable and a leather dungeon. Blakk's saucy way of connecting them is not to bother. When the ranch faces foreclosure, a cowpoke spies a hidden door in the stable, and walks through it to find himself in an alternate reality. It's the dungeon, where the cowboy handily enlists a leatherman to come back and screw the daylight out of the bill-collector so that all can end happily. It's one of those necessity-being-the-mother-of-invention



Globo-licious Mark Dalton pleases himself in that special way in two videos.

things, the carefree plot hung on Dalton's previously shot solo on the stable set.

Personal invitation

It's an okay solo, although without an audience, Mark doesn't know where to focus, and seems alternately distracted or self-conscious. He has to concentrate on getting excited, and arrives at his orgasm through earnest effort, not sexy joy. Still, he's skillful with the tease,

taking the longest time to get that mouthsize bit of sturdy perfection out, tantalizing us with glimpses of the morsel's sweet head or sleek shaft. Bottom boy that he seems to be (doesn't that arabesque tattoo above the rump flash that bit of news?), he fully engages when peddling his ass, grinding those sumptuous globes with wholehearted invitational expertise.

The rest of the movie's standard stuff. A cowboy trio has moments (Brett DiMinea's long, arching dick; Aaron Tanner and handsome Andrew Addams jammin' on a double-ended dildo that, in true porn style, is stashed in the hayloft); but another scene with cute kids dressed up as leathermen doesn't convince at all. Gorgeous stud Trey Rexx does,

however, with lover Leo Bramm getting the jizz in the movie's hearty conclusion. Major complaint: since this is a cowboy movie, that infernal banjo record the LA porn industry's been playing for decades plunks relentlessly on the soundtrack. Mark Dalton deserved better.

He gets it, mostly, in Michael Zen's *Prick Tease*. Zen cleverly provides an audience for Dalton's solo routine, which helps Mark connect at his impossibly personal best for 20 minutes. This time out, Mark got a tasty dusting of fine body hair, but when we get to his crotch, it's completely shaved. Complementing Mark's delight in showcasing his ass, Zen spends equal time exploring the boy's enticing cock. Zen doesn't go for the high art that director Jonathan Black lavished on Dolph Knight's solo in *Fetish*, but he's competent, and Dalton gives an assured and satisfying performance. Even so, he can't give in to ecstasy, and has trouble cumming. Makes me wonder what his story is. He's too cute to be straight. Will he ever get a cock in his mouth? Prick tease, indeed.

Although Zen's scenario connects the other scenes to Dalton, these couplings are standard events, their box-office names (Cameron Fox, Jason Sizemore) seen in fairly impersonal couplings that lack continuity. Actually, the treatment afforded a "major" new star by both these movies is pretty disheartening. ▼

Karnal Knowledge

Mister Marcus

◀ previous page

2003 are not yet completed, yet already the International Sir/boy feeder contests are in progress and next month, the American Leather Man, Woman and Boy will be chosen at American Brotherhood Weekend in Washington, DC.

Last week, Mr. Hoist Leather 2003 (London) was announced and the ruggedly handsome John Pendel, the winner, will compete at IML next May. In Munich, Mr. Bavaria Leather 2003, Michael Jupe, will represent that part of Germany in Chicago at IML 2003.

In Baltimore last weekend, Michael Williams emerged as Mr. Maryland Sir and Boy Gary will

advance to compete at Mid-Atlantic Leather Sir/boy competition in Washington, D.C. in July.

American Brotherhood Weekend next month will see from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Dana Booker, Pennsylvania Leather Man and Ms. Geri Farley as Pennsylvania Leather Woman.

San Diego's representation at IML is Sam Bacon, who was chosen on Saturday, March 8. It should be a great show in Chicago for IML's 25th anniversary. I hope you can be there!

Rumors & facts

Fact: Yes, in answer to your many inquiries, the LURE in New York will definitely close on April 9. No details available yet.

Rumor: Is it true that there will

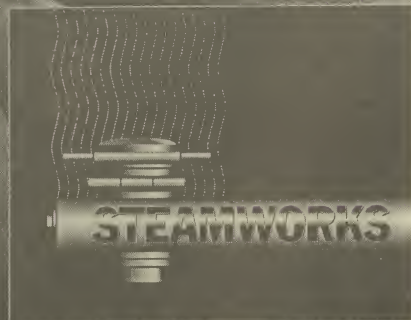
be a "Mama's Leather Man 2004" contest later this year to compete at the Mr. SF Leather 2004 contest in September? I hear a major announcement will be made regarding this development on or about April 1st and it will *not* be an April Fool joke!

Rumor: Is it true that a new leather bar will be opening on or about July 4th South of Market with a grand, grand opening the same weekend as the Up Your Alley Fair (Dore Alley)? It will be called "The Titanic." Hmmm.

Fact: If there were eight days a week, Audrey Joseph would be working all eight days. As it is, her new club "mezzanine" will open for business (and you better be there!) on Saturday, April 5th because Audrey works hard! ▼

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• Androgens are contraindicated in men with carcinoma of the breast; or known or suspected carcinoma of the prostate. Geriatric patients treated with androgens may be at an increased risk for the development of prostatic hyperplasia and prostatic carcinoma.

• To minimize the potential transfer of testosterone to another person, patients should wash their hands immediately with soap and water after application of AndroGel. They should cover the application site(s) with clothing after the gel has dried.

Please see brief summary of prescribing information.

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1. Dobs AS. Androgen therapy in AIDS wasting. *Baillière's Clin Endocrinol Metab* 1998;12:379-390.

2. Grinspoon S, Corcoran C, Askari H, et al. Effects of androgen administration in men with the AIDS wasting syndrome: a randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial. *Ann Intern Med* 1998;129:18-26.

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INDICATIONS AND USAGE

AndroGel® is indicated for replacement therapy in males for conditions associated with a deficiency or absence of endogenous testosterone.

1. Primary hypogonadism (congenital or acquired)—testicular failure due to cryptorchidism, bilateral torsion, orchitis, vanishing testis syndrome, orchiectomy, Klinefelter's syndrome, chemotherapy, or toxic damage from alcohol or heavy metals. These men usually have low serum testosterone levels and gonadotropins (FSH, LH) above the normal range.
2. Hypogonadotropic hypogonadism (congenital or acquired)—idiopathic gonadotropin or luteinizing hormone-releasing hormone (LHRH) deficiency or pituitary-hypothalamic injury from tumors, trauma, or radiation. These men have low testosterone serum levels but have gonadotropins in the normal or low range.

AndroGel® has not been clinically evaluated in males under 18 years of age.

CONTRAINDICATIONS

Androgens are contraindicated in men with carcinoma of the breast or known or suspected carcinoma of the prostate.

AndroGel® is not indicated for use in women, has not been evaluated in women, and must not be used in women.

Pregnant women should avoid skin contact with AndroGel® application sites in men. Testosterone may cause fetal harm. In the event that unwashed or unclothed skin to which AndroGel® has been applied does come in direct contact with the skin of a pregnant woman, the general area of contact on the woman should be washed with soap and water as soon as possible. *In vitro* studies show that residual testosterone is removed from the skin surface by washing with soap and water.

AndroGel® should not be used in patients with known hypersensitivity to any of its ingredients, including testosterone USP that is chemically synthesized from soy.

WARNINGS

1. Prolonged use of high doses of orally active 17-alpha-alkyl androgens (e.g., methyltestosterone) has been associated with serious hepatic adverse effects (peliosis hepatis, hepatic neoplasms, cholestatic hepatitis, and jaundice). Peliosis hepatis can be a life-threatening or fatal complication. Long-term therapy with testosterone enanthate, which elevates blood levels for prolonged periods, has produced multiple hepatic adenomas. Testosterone is not known to produce these adverse effects.
2. Geriatric patients treated with androgen, may be at an increased risk for the development of prostatic hyperplasia and prostatic carcinoma.
3. Geriatric patients and other patients with clinical or demographic characteristics that are recognized to be associated with an increased risk of prostate cancer should be evaluated for the presence of prostate cancer prior to initiation of testosterone replacement therapy. In men receiving testosterone replacement therapy, surveillance for prostate cancer should be consistent with current practices for eugonadal men (see PRECAUTIONS: Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility and Laboratory Tests).
4. Edema with or without congestive heart failure may be a serious complication in patients with preexisting cardiac, renal, or hepatic disease. In addition to discontinuation of the drug, diuretic therapy may be required.
5. Gynecomastia frequently develops and occasionally persists in patients being treated for hypogonadism.
6. The treatment of hypogonadal men with testosterone esters may potentiate sleep apnea in some patients, especially those with risk factors such as obesity or chronic lung diseases.

PRECAUTIONS

Transfer of testosterone to another person can occur when vigorous skin-to-skin contact is made with the application site (see Clinical Studies). The following precautions are recommended to minimize potential transfer of testosterone from AndroGel®-treated skin to another person:

- Patients should wash their hands immediately with soap and water after application of AndroGel®.
- Patients should cover the application site(s) with clothing after the gel has dried (e.g., a shirt).
- In the event that unwashed or unclothed skin to which AndroGel® has been applied does come in direct contact with the skin of another person, the general area of contact on the other person should be washed with soap and water as soon as possible. *In vitro* studies show that residual testosterone is removed from the skin surface by washing with soap and water.

Changes in body hair distribution, significant increase in acne, or other signs of virilization of the female partner should be brought to the attention of a physician.

General

- The physician should instruct patients to report any of the following:
 - Too frequent or persistent erections of the penis.
 - Any nausea, vomiting, changes in skin color, or ankle swelling.
 - Breathing disturbances, including those associated with sleep.

Information for Patients

Advise patients to carefully read the information brochure that accompanies each carton of 30 AndroGel® single-use packets.

Advise patients of the following:

- AndroGel® should not be applied to the scrotum.
- AndroGel® should be applied once daily to clean, dry skin.
- After application of AndroGel®, it is currently unknown for how long showering or swimming should be delayed. For optimal absorption of testosterone, it appears reasonable to wait at least 5-6 hours after application prior to showering or swimming. Nevertheless, showering or swimming after just 1 hour should have a minimal effect on the amount of AndroGel® absorbed if done very infrequently.

Laboratory Tests

1. Hemoglobin and hematocrit levels should be checked periodically (to detect polycythemia) in patients on long-term androgen therapy.
2. Liver function, prostatic specific antigen, cholesterol, and high-density lipoprotein should be checked periodically.
3. To ensure proper dosing, serum testosterone concentrations should be measured (see DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION).

Drug Interactions

Oxyphenbutazone: Concurrent administration of oxyphenbutazone and androgens may result in elevated serum levels of oxyphenbutazone.

Insulin: In diabetic patients, the metabolic effects of androgens may decrease blood glucose and, therefore, insulin requirements.

Propranolol: In a published pharmacokinetic study of an injectable testosterone product, administration of testosterone cypionate led to an increased clearance of propranolol in the majority of men tested.

Corticosteroids: The concurrent administration of testosterone with ACTH or corticosteroids may enhance edema formation; thus, these drugs should be administered cautiously, particularly in patients with cardiac or hepatic disease.

Drug/Laboratory Test Interactions

Androgens may decrease levels of thyroxine-binding globulin, resulting in decreased total T4 serum levels and increased resin uptake of T3 and T4. Free thyroid hormone levels remain unchanged, however, and there is no clinical evidence of thyroid dysfunction.

Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility

Animal Data: Testosterone has been tested by subcutaneous injection and implantation in mice and rats. In mice, the implant induced cervical-uterine tumors, which metastasized in some cases. There is suggestive evidence that injection of testosterone into some strains of female mice increases their susceptibility to hepatoma. Testosterone is also known to increase the number of tumors and decrease the degree of differentiation of chemically induced carcinomas of the liver in rats.

Human Data: There are rare reports of hepatocellular carcinoma in patients receiving long-term oral therapy with androgens in high doses. Withdrawal of the drugs did not lead to regression of the tumors in all cases.

Geriatric patients treated with androgens may be at an increased risk for the development of prostatic hyperplasia and prostatic carcinoma.

Geriatric patients and other patients with clinical or demographic characteristics that are recognized to be associated with an increased risk of prostate cancer should be evaluated for the presence of prostate cancer prior to initiation of testosterone replacement therapy.

In men receiving testosterone replacement therapy, surveillance for prostate cancer should be consistent with current practices for eugonadal men.

Pregnancy Category X (see Contraindications)—Teratogenic Effects: AndroGel® is not indicated for women and must not be used in women.

Nursing Mothers: AndroGel® is not indicated for women and must not be used in women.

Pediatric Use: Safety and efficacy of AndroGel® in pediatric patients have not been established.

ADVERSE REACTIONS

In a controlled clinical study, 154 patients were treated with AndroGel® for up to 6 months. Adverse events possibly, probably or definitely related to the use of AndroGel® and reported by ≥1% of the patients are listed in Table 1.

Table 1. Adverse Events Possibly, Probably or Definitely Related to Use of AndroGel® in the Controlled Clinical Trial

Adverse Event	5 g	7.5 g	10 g
Acne	1%	3%	8%
Alopecia	1%	0%	1%
Application Site Reaction	5%	3%	4%
Asthenia	0%	3%	1%
Depression	1%	0%	1%
Emotional Lability	0%	3%	3%
Gynecomastia	1%	0%	3%
Headache	4%	3%	0%
Hypertension	3%	0%	3%
Lab Test Abnormal*	6%	5%	3%
Libido Decreased	0%	3%	1%
Nervousness	0%	3%	1%
Pain Breast	1%	3%	1%
Prostate Disorder**	3%	3%	5%
Testis Disorder	3%	0%	0%

*Lab test abnormal occurred in nine patients with one or more of the following events: elevated hemoglobin or hematocrit, hyperlipidemia, elevated triglycerides, hypokalemia, decreased HDL, elevated glucose, elevated creatinine, or elevated total bilirubin.

**Prostate disorders included five patients with enlarged prostate, one patient with BPH, and one patient with elevated PSA results.

The following adverse events possibly related to the use of AndroGel® occurred in fewer than 1% of patients: amnesia, anxiety, discolored hair, dizziness, dry skin, hirsutism, hostility, impaired urination, paresthesia, penis disorder, peripheral edema, sweating, and vasodilation.

In this clinical trial of AndroGel®, skin reactions at the site of application were occasionally reported with AndroGel®, but none was severe enough to require treatment or discontinuation of drug.

Six (4%) patients in this trial had adverse events that led to discontinuation of AndroGel®. These events included the following: cerebral hemorrhage, convulsion (neither of which were considered related to AndroGel® administration), depression, sadness, memory loss, elevated prostate specific antigen and hypertension. No AndroGel® patients discontinued due to skin reactions.

In an uncontrolled pharmacokinetic study of 10 patients, two had adverse events associated with AndroGel®; these were asthenia and depression in one patient and increased libido and hyperkinesia in the other. Among 17 patients in foreign clinical studies there was one instance each of acne, erythema and benign prostate adenoma associated with a 2.5% testosterone gel formulation applied dermally.

One hundred six (106) patients have received AndroGel® for up to 12 months in a long-term follow-up study for patients who completed the controlled clinical trial. The preliminary safety results from this study are consistent with those reported for the controlled clinical trial. Table 2 summarizes those adverse events possibly, probably or definitely related to the use of AndroGel® and reported by at least 1% of the total number of patients during long-term exposure to AndroGel®.

Table 2. Incidence of Adverse Events Possibly, Probably or Definitely Related to the Use of AndroGel® in the Long-Term, Follow-up Study

Adverse Event	Dose of AndroGel®		
	5 g	7.5 g	10 g
Lab Test Abnormal*	4.2%	0.0%	6.3%
Peripheral Edema	1.4%	0.0%	3.1%
Acne	2.8%	0.0%	12.5%
Application Site Reaction	9.7%	10.0%	3.1%
Prostate Disorder**	2.8%	5.0%	18.8%
Urination Impaired	2.8%	0.0%	0.0%

*Lab test abnormal included one patient each with elevated GGTP, elevated hematocrit and hemoglobin, increased total bilirubin, worsened hyperlipidemia, decreased HDL, and hypokalemia.

**Prostate disorders included enlarged prostate, elevated PSA results, and in one patient, a new diagnosis of prostate cancer; three patients (one taking 7.5 g daily and two taking 10 g daily) discontinued AndroGel® treatment during the long-term study because of such disorders.

DRUG ABUSE AND DEPENDENCE

AndroGel® contains testosterone, a Schedule III controlled substance as defined by the Anabolic Steroids Control Act.

Oral ingestion of AndroGel® will not result in clinically significant serum testosterone concentrations due to extensive first-pass metabolism.

OVERDOSAGE

There is one report of acute overdosage by injection of testosterone enanthate: testosterone levels of up to 11,400 ng/dL were implicated in a cerebrovascular accident.

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

The recommended starting dose of AndroGel® 1% is 5 g delivering 5 mg of testosterone systemically, applied once daily (preferably in the morning) to clean, dry, intact skin of the shoulders and upper arms and/or abdomen. Upon opening the packet(s), the entire contents should be squeezed into the palm of the hand and immediately applied to the application sites. Application sites should be allowed to dry for a few minutes prior to dressing. Hands should be washed with soap and water after AndroGel® has been applied.

Do not apply AndroGel® to the genitals.

Serum testosterone levels should be measured approximately 14 days after initiation of therapy to ensure proper dosing. If the serum testosterone concentration is below the normal range, or if the desired clinical response is not achieved, the daily AndroGel® 1% dose may be increased from 5 g to 7.5 g and from 7.5 g to 10 g as instructed by the physician.

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Oscars

Arts cover

movie can be nominated for Best Supporting Actress.

Logic be damned, this is our rite of spring. I'll not attempt prognostication here: nobody wants to act the fool when the Monday morning quarterbacks come to town. I'll say this much: I dearly hope Julianne Moore wins something. She scored the rare coup of nominations in lead and supporting categories this year, and she's simply the best actress now working in movies. I thought *About Schmidt* and *Catch Me If You Can* were better than their measly two nominations apiece would suggest, despite an incongruous performance by Jack Nicholson in the former. As for *Chicago*, it's good enough to give us hope for new life in the film musical. It's well-mounted and full of sass, but 13 nominations? That's seven more than *The Wizard of Oz*, and 11 more than *Singin' in the Rain*. The oft-told story of Roxie Hart and Velma Kelly, two fame-hungry man-eaters who jerk the media every which way, was apparently well-studied by the suits at Miramax. They employed the same techniques and gave us that old razzle-dazzle. The Academy and box-office rewarded them in kind, forgetting temperance in the process.

Women's roles got very interesting this year. They do all sorts of things — bribery, infidelity, murder, child abandonment — that would ordinarily demonize men. Miraculously, the women kept our sympathy. In the annals of Hollywood sexism, is this a step forward or back?

Supporting Actress: Orchids and the Big House Catherine Zeta-Jones Douglas was quite the siren in *Chicago*, and gave the movie's best performance, but she isn't appreciably finer than non-nominated Doris Day in many a film musical of yesteryear. Lucky for her, our expectations for on-screen musical talent are now at rock bottom. Did anyone catch a faint breeze of disappointment in Queen Latifah's *Chicago* turn? In the grand tradition of evil prison matrons, she can't compete with that proto-species, Shirley Stoler (*Seven Beauties*). In *Adaptation*,

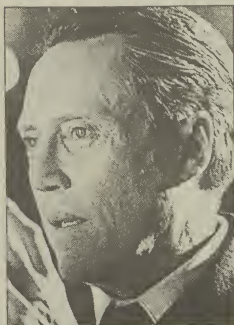


Streep: straight to Books on Tape

Meryl Streep offers lovely voiceovers on the orchid and its metaphors, and she could have a great career doing books on tape. On film, she suffers from overfamiliarity, giving us mannerisms that echo all the way back to *Kramer vs. Kramer*. Kathy Bates storms into *About Schmidt* during its last act, and sets it aglow with her customary *elan*. Hers is the true bravura supporting turn, giving her small role as an overaged glad girl some real tang. Most potently, Julianne Moore's performance as the fragile, quietly suffocating '50s housewife provided

the emotional epicenter to *The Hours*, and a reason to believe in author Michael Cunningham's intriguing story.

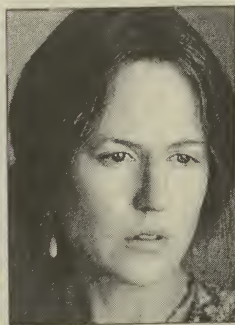
Supporting Actor: Vets and upstarts Chris Cooper was the fairest flower in *Adaptation*, and the unlikely Yoda to Meryl Streep's discontent writer. But the movie let him down in the swamp, with an ending that isn't clever enough to camouflage some real desperation from the screenwriter. In *The Hours*, Ed Harris plays a man ravaged by AIDS. The make-up, halting walk and glassy stare are fairly convincing, while his relationship with non-nominated Streep isn't. Paul Newman squeaked a nomination out of playing a mob boss in *The Road to Perdition*, a tedious movie that dares to suggest one shouldn't make a living out of killing people. After years of play-



Walken tries a little sympathy.

ing heavy, Christopher Walken tried some sympathy in *Catch Me If You Can*, and it served him well. John C. Reilly is a fine supporting player who reflects on his own invisibility in "Mr. Cellophane" from *Chicago*. Somehow the Academy decided this effort was more meritorious than Dennis Quaid's in *Far From Heaven* or Alfred Molina's in *Frida*. How did Reilly earn a place on the ticket for doing so little?

Actress: Who's afraid of Frida Kahlo and errant housewives? Julianne Moore found her inner Jane Wyman and delivered a perfect performance in the fever dream that is *Far From Heaven*, whispering her way through the uncharted waters of race and homosexuality in 1957 suburban Connecticut. Diane Lane, a good actress who has been knocking on stardom's door for more than 20 years, finally broke through as the Un in *Unfaithful*. Her postcoital what-have-I-done scene as she commutes home is already a minor classic, but may look hammy in a few years. Salma Hayek sacrificed Kahlo's stache at the altar of Movie Beauty in *Frida*, but she otherwise pulled out the stops as the famed hardluck painter. Poor Nicole Kidman. She gave a mature performance as Virginia Woolf in *The Hours*, aching to leave bucolia while possessed of demons in the head. But no mat-



Kidman: aching to leave bucolia.

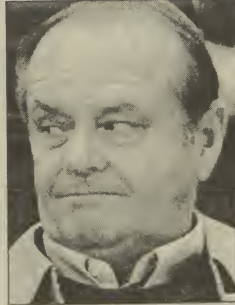
ter how she committed herself to Woolf, that fake nose was an incessant distraction. It was so bad it invited comparisons to real noses sharing the screen, a preoccupation no doubt contrary to the filmmaker's intention. The fifth slot is occupied by squinty-eyed, pouty-lipped Renée Zellweger, who excelled as *Chicago*'s wicked Roxie Hart. Who knew she could warble and shimmy without embarrassment? Still, there's something not quite right about her. Maybe it's the face that was meant for Busby Berkeley. Or a feeling deep down that her talent is not equal to her success.

Actor: #4 for Jack? Adrien Brody in *The Pianist*: what a face! His performance was appropriately void of sentimental flourishes as



Brody: devoid of sentimentality.

he withdrew like a caged animal into the madness of forced solitude and starvation. Michael Caine gives a good rendition of "jaded" in *The Quiet American*. I find Nicolas Cage nearly unwatchable, in *Adaptation* or anything else, so let's move on. Daniel Day-Lewis was the only actor in *Gangs of New York* who bothered to create a character, tempering Martin Scorsese's blat with some vivid showmanship. He invests Bill the Butcher with an evil so consuming it twists his body into a gnarled mass. And then there's Jack. He's been low-profile professionally since winning Oscar #3 for the appalling *As Good as It Gets*. In *About Schmidt*, he tries something different. As a small man suffering a thousand enmities on his approaching rendezvous with death, he loses the killer grin and goes sober, Percodan and beer notwithstanding. He radiates charisma like nobody else, but his efforts to be something other than Nicholson at this stage in his career are futile. *Schmidt* needs either a lot more



Nicholson: futile efforts to de-Jack.

irony or Gene Hackman to bring conviction to the common man.

Picture: Epics of urbanity, misery and computer programming *The Gangs of New York*, Scorsese's loud, long tribute to horrible people, snared an amazing 10 nods amidst tepid box-office and nasty reviews. There is an energy to *Gangs* that is undeniable, but the story is very slight — murder, vengeance, betrayal, showdown — and the central character, played blandly by Leonardo DiCaprio, is a cipher. Admire the bigness, turn away from the rivers of blood, and forget it by morning.

The Hours is a sporadically moving reminder than the living and the dead are forever mingling. God knows American movies are rarely of this high pedigree, and *The Hours* has the best chance of stopping the runaway train headed for *Chicago*. But sophomore director Stephen (Billy Elliott) Daldry substitutes monotonous close-ups for interesting visuals. *The Hours* is above all a multi-star vehicle; concern for its artistry takes a backseat to the telltale indicators of prestige and superior marketing. Many well-known faces crowd its subplots, making it feel like a disaster movie for the literati. Only Julianne Moore as a desperately unhappy housewife creates a story that approaches genuine tragedy, aided by Toni

Collette as a woman ignorant of her heart's desire. The whole affair, gloomy as it is, should play better when it inevitably comes to us as an extras-heavy DVD.

It is a pleasure to see Roman Polanski working close to the top of his game again with *The Pianist*, so many years after *Rosemary's Baby* and *Chinatown*. *The Pianist* is quite unlike anything he has done before. We can forgive its linguistic inconsistencies and overly explanatory plot. The true story of a Warsaw pianist who was spared the Nazi death camps is harrowing stuff, and a stark reminder of film's capacity to join realism with the deliberate inspirations of a great director.

The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers place on the Best Picture list in lieu of *Talk to Her* or *Far From Heaven* is further proof that digitized spectacle impresses a startling number of people. This is the one Best Picture nominee that lacks a directing nomination, so you can pretty much count it out as a potential winner. Pedro Almodovar for *Talk to Her* won the hearts of the director's branch instead of Peter Jackson for his latest Hobbit fest.

Chicago owes more to *Cabaret* than words can say. Director Bob Marshall deconstructed Bob Fosse's landmark 1972 film musical, mimicking the tawdry staginess and occasionally employing near-duplicate shots. Imitation becomes *Chicago*: it offers plenty of show-biz razzamatazz, with thrusting hips, fast edits, and anachronistic dancing styles. In the debit column, it fails utterly at reconstructing the look of the era, while the John Kander-Fred Ebb music lacks the multiple moods of the greatest scores. *Chicago*'s grade-school cynicism speaks volumes for the limited place of musicals in the current market. Spice trumps sugar nowadays. What's next? Let's rework a classic to suit current tastes. Perhaps Cameron Diaz in fishnets and riding crop as that hottie pediatric dominatrix Mary Poppins?

Aaah, something to look forward to when Oscar turns 76. ▼

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A whole lotta D.W. Griffith

Father of 'Birth of a Nation' out on DVD

by Matthew Kennedy

In Lillian Gish's final years, when she was a peaches-and-cream old lady, she spoke openly and frequently about David Wark Griffith (1875-1948), the director who defined her early film career. She spoke of him in superlatives, and in a 1970s conversation that appears in Kino's magnum new Griffith DVD box set, she calls him "the father of film" as casually as if she were calling him "Daddy." Many film historians routinely bestow such dis-

tinctions on the prickly, Kentucky-born son of a Confederate officer. It comes off as a bit of hyperventilation, especially in light of the early feature-length work of contemporaries Raoul Walsh (*Regeneration*), Giovanni Pastrone (*Cabiria*), and August Blom (*Atlantis*). But the assumption of Griffith's primacy is passed down from one generation to the next, at least in the US, until it becomes unquestioned fact. No argument Griffith was a pioneer, but movie paternity does not belong to one individual.

None of this is meant as a dis-

couragement from investing in Kino's superb new seven-disc Griffith package. With two discs of his early Biograph shorts, *The Birth of a Nation*, *Intolerance*, *Broken Blossoms*, *Orphans of the Storm*, and a suitcase packed with extras, this collection is *de rigueur* for the shelf of any self-styled would-be DVD snob.

To appreciate the scope of the Kino Collection, it's best to tackle the films chronologically. The first two discs offer a banquet of one- and two-reelers Griffith did for Biograph between 1908 and 1913. Famous among them is *Those Awful Hats* (1909), a three-minute demonstration of theater etiquette that would still play well at the local Octoplex. The realistic *Corner in Wheat* (1909) is a particularly valuable short film for its early use of cross-cutting, effectively punctuating the gross distinctions between rich and poor. Note, too, how an odd kind of death from *Wheat* was copied in 1985's *Witness*.

Most every short has one or two points of enduring curiosity. *The House with Closed Shutters* (1910) features a Confederate woman who fights in place of her coward brother, while crossdressing contributes to the timeless fable. *The Last Drop of Water* (1911) is a beautifully self-contained drama, warmed by a lovely piano score. *The New York Hat* (1912) offers a look at Mary Pickford and Lionel Barrymore at the beginning of their careers. *Death's Marathon* (1913) is probably the first-ever depiction of suicide by phone. *An Unseen Enemy* (1912) is a crackling exercise in suspense, marking the film debuts of Lillian and Dorothy Gish. When Lillian finds evidence of her husband's dalliances in *The Mothering Heart* (1913), she appears to lose her soul and mind simultaneously,



Griffith (right), a grand old man at the Academy Awards banquet in 1936.



Griffith in 1913: racial stereotypes

and for one moment looks capable of anything. Gish is paralyzed and paralyzing, expressing from within the skill of a great actress.

Surviving lemons

Some of these artifacts creek and groan with age, rooted as they are in Griffith's steadfast dedication to bug-eyed Victorian melodrama. His first film, 1908's *The Adventures of Dollie*, has no hold on greatness. *Enoch Arden* (1911), his first two-reeler, is similarly dusty, with acting and makeup

that look strictly high-school today. His *Trust* (1911) has white actors in blackface playing subservient, cowering African American stereotypes. Griffith's oft-referenced racism is given a preview here, and of course reached its fullest expression in *The Birth of a Nation*. *The Battle at Elderbush Gulch* (1913) is a rousing saga that looks like the grandfather of Griffith's epics-to-be. Racial stereotyping is here, too, with the Indian blessing, "May you eat dog and live long," given as an explanation for missing puppies. Even the surviving lemons from Griffith's canon are purely distilled dramas managing both character development and narrative complexity in barely more than 15 minutes. One can't help but ask why it takes modern filmmakers so damn long to tell a story.

The Kino Collection is generous, but it doesn't approach Griffith's output of more than 450 one- and two-reelers. Too bad *Judith of Bethulia* (1914), his first four-reeler and American cinema's foremost shorts-to-features transition movie, is not included. Still, Kino offers enough of these old nuggets to appreciate Griffith's early art. ▼

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Happy bar-hopping

by Sweet Lips

Well, it is finally settled—the Club Rendez-Vous is not closing! The church that bought that corner property cannot build a church, as it is zoned for commercial property. So David Kapp of Club RV is planning many new events, including bringing back the marvelous and gorgeous male strippers!

Tango Tango Bar on California Street still has the very sexy Michael Waldy on the plank, doing a great job.

Yes, Woody is back to work at the Cinch Saloon after a brief illness. Glad to have you back, Woody!

For those with the munchies, Victor's Pizza on Polk Street near Pine has consistently had some of the finest pizza in the city. Yes, they deliver.

Going to visit Chicago? Check out the handsome go-go boys at the Lucky Horse Shoe, 3169 N. Halstead Street, where men go for shows and entertainment. They have two rooms with ornate art-deco finishes. Say hello to Sophie, one of the owners, a very down-to-earth person. You can call the club at (773) 404-3169.

Bert Dreyer and Jim Doan are making another pilgrimage to Portland and the Silverado Bar, a great place with inexpensive cocktails and beautiful male strippers. It's been a great bar for many years. Tommy, keep up the good work!

Carl is still doing his thing at Reflections Bar and still shows his talents, so drop by and have a cocktail with him.

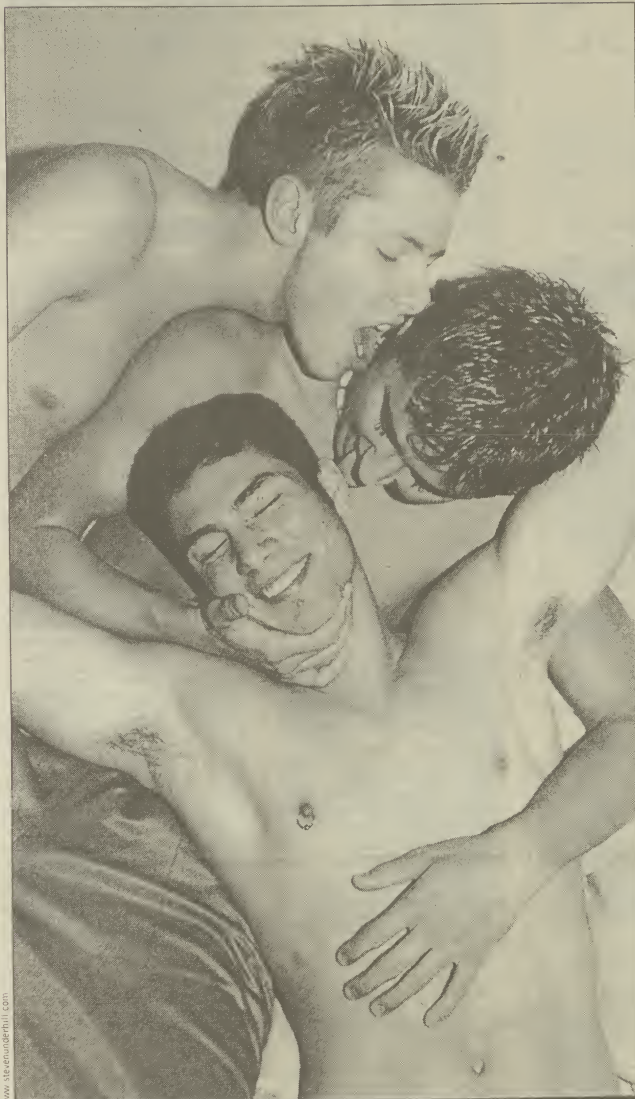
Happy Birthday to Robbie "Helen Trent" Robinson on Sunday, March 30, and on March 31 to "TJ!" I can't give you years, or they'd get mad.

I invite you all to pay me a visit at Kimo's on Polk Street, where I work four days a week, Saturday through Tuesday on the early shift, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Come dish the dirt! Right, Brian dear? ▼



Cocktail Hour

BAR TALK



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PARTING GLANCES

"Hey There Littleman"

To the Artist formerly known as my boyfriend: Happy belated. That's all. No strings. P. "The canvas must blush. You flatter it so." ☎ 72418

Half Indian Ex-Mormon On Market

HIV+. New Years Day of 2002 we lost touch, I wanted to tell you of Jack Haley's death. Are you still alive? You, or a friend, please contact me. ☎ 72419

24th Street Ritz Camera

Sat 3/1. You were getting passport photo. I was buying videotape. I should have volunteered to document your trip with you! Hope we can talk further. ☎ 72454

"Missed Connections!"

Giancarlo the hairdresser. We used to date but lost contact with you. I used to have the cats. Would like to see you again. My name is Marc. ☎ 72465

Howard- We Met At 14th Street

House on Winter Solstice, exchanged numbers, but your was missing. Our would be a serviceable relationship. ☎ 72466

Market Street Safeway 3/6 5:30

You- white t-shirt, very handsome, great smile, std bank card wrong way. Me- behind you in line, glasses, glue, black jacket. Would love to meet. Maybe coffee? ☎ 72467

"1984"

3/7- We shared a seat on Bart. You were reading 1984. I got off at MacArthur. ☎ 72468

•Brandon/ Palo Alto•

We met at Stud 3/8. You disappeared when we were at "My Place". Let's continue the tour. Michael ☎ 72469

Safe sex is hot sex! ☎ SAFE

SEEKING RELATIONSHIP

Seeking Relationship

Single mature WM good height/weight proportion, disease-free, ISO similar buddy for mutual pleasure, J/O, oral, massage etc. ☎ 72420

Peninsula And South Bay

Friendly, masculine, easy-going guy 44 with trim waist and nice hair wants to meet another trim waist guy 20 to 40's for fun and friendship. ☎ 72421

Poz Looking For Real Man

Looking for down to earth guy for dating and ltr. I'm 44, 6'2", 205, like movies, walks on beach, quiet times at home N/S, not into bar or gay scene. ☎ 72455

Slim, Trim, Attractive Professional

GWM 48, 6', swimmer's build, healthy HIV+ seeks attractive, affectionate guy for dating. You're smart, conversant, & not into gay scene. ☎ 72456

"Academic Physician From India"

Living in Boston, visiting SF March 19-26. 44, 5'10", 195lbs. dark hair & eyes, naturally tanned. Professional collegiate, straight appearing, masculine, strong. Top romantic passionate, kind, caring & giving. Seeks GM, 28-45, straight appearing educated, adventurous, non-smoker and not into scene. Let us meet for friendship fun and whatever naturally develops. Chizzled muscles are a big turn-on. Who knows what can happen. Open to possibilities. ☎ 72457

The Hottest Guy In Town

Even the hottest guy in town is not worth risking your life over. Always play safe. Wear a condom and never exchange bodily fluids. Remember, safe sex is hot sex! ☎ SAFE

Energetic/ Athletic Young Latin

Gdiking 39yrs. Latin versatile. 155lbs. Drug free looking for W/LGM, versatile nice build, smooth 6 to 6 1/2 dick, small round butt N/D HIV+ healthy. ☎ 72458

Young Latino Wanted

By this 6', 197lb. GWM 57 bwn/hzl. no s. light d, smaller than me and uncl preferred. I'm a nice guy, spiritual and understanding. I like outdoor/ indoor activities. Open to ltr. ☎ 72459

Italian Lover, Man

(Oh Where Can You Be?) I'm looking for the right Italian guy for a relationship, friendship fun and sex. Call me! ☎ 72460

SWGm In Seek Of SWGM

20-35 years old in Ukiah area, who is looking for a long-term relationship. He should be clean cut, loves to dance and someone to show me a good time. ☎ 72470

GLM Seeking Black Or Mulatto

44yrs. 5'5" 125lbs smooth masculine work out small tight butt. Athletic body HIV+ healthy. Seeks Blk or Mulatto for hot sex possible relationship. ☎ 72471

Masc Skay Bord Bottom Guy

GLM 38yrs 5:07/153lbs. muscular body bottom smooth masc. tight butt seeking any race height/weight proportion 25 to 40, cool attitude @ 6'7" inch for friendship, fun, Versatile or top N/D or fems. ☎ 72472

~Candlelight Dinner~

Followed by a naked embrace, a sensual shower together, and gentle erotic lovemaking. Slender masculine guy looking for the same. I'm 44 and prefer you be younger or same age. ☎ 72473

The Sexiest Guy In Town

Even the sexiest guy in town is not worth risking your life over. Be safe! ☎ SAFE

SEEKING ADVENTURE

Celebrate Black History Month

With this mature, mellow Black gentleman. Massage me, serve me drinks, enjoy my ebony manhood. I enjoy mature men, tall and husky men and men with moustache's. Hotels? ☎ 72422

Wants Older Black Men To Suck

Bi WM- looking for older Black men, seniors, retired to suck. In San Francisco, weekdays- daytime only. Let me make you feel good with my mouth. Nice guys only. ☎ 72423

Seeking Senior Top!

Bi bottom 50 seeks senior top over 60 for once a week in Sonoma county. Couples considered. ☎ 72424

Hairy Suck Buddy Wanted

By hairy muscular daddy for mutual cocksucking, nipwork, kissing, 69+++. Looking for healthy Poz, masculine, tall GWM like me- 5'11", 185, 50. Prefer 40+, in SF, inshape, repeats. ☎ 72425

Seeking Indo-American, South Asian

Oral Bottom preferably hairy and hung for heavy, intense j/o, dirty talk, cock worship, partying buddy desired. Your place, PM preferred. Not into toys, videos, groups, tits, shaved body parts, anal. Long partying scenes encouraged. ☎ 72430

~Naked Ecstasy~

Free soothing massage session for trim masculine guys from 20's to 40's by easy going trim masculine WM 44. ☎ 72431

Getting A Late Start

G.W.M. 57- 6'1", 200lbs. fantasized about S&M for years, now ready to meet a single or couple willing to show me, then show me off. C.B.I., hanging around, S&M party, all sound great. ☎ 72476

Vicious Cockucker/ Nine Inch!

Me: 6'1", 220 HIV-, very clean, UB-21 Hung 40y.o. WM seeks 30-60 y olds in the Peninsula/ S.Bay Area for long, hot unforgettable sessions. ☎ 72433

•Celebrate Black History Month•

Pamper this mellow, mature Black gentleman. Massage me, serve me drinks, relieve my tension. Seeking a mature, masculine, submissive man with a moustache. Direct contact phone number required. Hotel? ☎ 72434

Nude Beach Buddies Wanted!!!!

GWM 49 fit active goodlooking and nude beach advocate seeks others for nude travels, adventure and outdoor sex. Love to j/o and fuck. Black guys a big plus. ☎ 72435

Naked Psychotherapy

Lay on my couch and tell me about your childhood, problems, and sexual fantasies. Free therapy for trim waisted guys under 45 by masculine trim role play psychiatrist 44. ☎ 72461

Big Man Wanted!

Healthy, clean senior GW masc. top seeking big, heavy, or overweight bi or GW masc, submissive bottom. ☎ 72462

Seeking Indo-American, South

Asian oral bottom. Preferably hairy and hung for heavy, intense j/o, dirty talk, cock worship, partying buddy desired. Some oral ok but mostly j/o, etc. Your place, PM preferred. Not into toys, videos, groups tits, shaved body parts, anal. Long partying scenes encouraged. ☎ 72474

Visiting 03/22-29

Partners, early 60's, staying in Castro at Beck's, seek other mature singles or couples who, like us, are height/weight proportionate, and STD free, for play. Also would enjoy light BD/SM if you have dungeon. Tops and "versatiles" particularly appreciated. ☎ 72475

Seeking Middle Aged, Chubby

Balding oral bottom preferably hairy and hung for heavy, intense j/o, dirty talk, cock worship. Drinking partying buddy desired. Your place PM preferred. Not into toys, videos, groups tits, shaved body parts, anal. Long partying scenes encouraged. ☎ 72432

You Suck I Stuff

Italian, 52, 5'7", medium build, HIV-neg, 7.15x5.5" cut, low hangers, seeks aggressive cocksucker with an insatiable mouth and lots of stamina for long sessions. Your place. ☎ 72477

Latino Seeking Black

Me 40's 5'5" slim smooth masculine bottom nice body with out healthy poz seeks Black nice body for hot sex-play safe cool attitude possible relationship. ☎ 72478

FETISHES

Solano County Freak Seeks Same

Males- Females- Couples. Any race, age, size. I'm SAM, tan, slim, average hung. Hairless from neck to crotch. Love cum facials, naturism, voyeurism, farmboys, cheerleaders, and schoolgirl fantasies. Local preferred. ☎ 72479

Feb Pretty Boys Threesome Oohs

Me, bi-Latin-male- 54, ISO of pretty boys- pretty-boys (18-21 only) for 69, French/Greek, pretty-lips/ tight - asses, very femine only. ☎ 72417

Big Fat Buns

My fantasy is to rim a big, White, smooth, supple, fat ass; you need to be 18-30. ☎ 72426

Big Butt

Needs attention from bottom scat guy for long hot session. ☎ 72427

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Lifelong excitement looking at & fantasizing about men's barefeet. Gdiking East Bay GWM, 5'9", trim, tan, HIV-, loves reciprocal kissing, licking, massaging barefeet & erotic, sensual/safe all over body play. ☎ 72428

Man W/ Toe Ring Loves Barefeet

Lifelong excitement looking at & fantasizing about men's barefeet. Gdiking East Bay GWM, 5'9", trim, tan, HIV-, loves reciprocal kissing, licking, massaging barefeet & erotic, sensual/safe all over body play. ☎ 72463

Seeking Senior Circle Jerk

Masculine WM seeking senior with 2-6 friends who can organize monthly senior citizen circle jerk with me in the middle on receiving end will consider solo but prefer small group. ☎ 72464

OTHER

SWM 6'4", Couples Wanted...

Seeking adventure. Men watch me screw the hell out of your women. You watch, clean, safe, discreet. ☎ 72429

Play safe. Wear a condom. ☎ SAFE

BAR TALK

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CATEGORY

- Parting Glances ☐
 Seeking Relationship ☐
 Seeking Adventure ☐
 Lesbian ☐
 Fetishes ☐
 Couples ☐
 Others ☐

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Name _____ Daytime Telephone _____
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Headline, 30 characters maximum

Write the rest of your ad here, 30 words maximum

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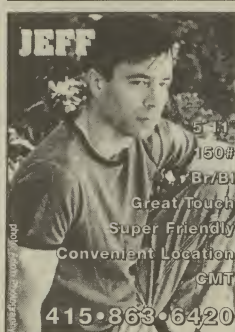
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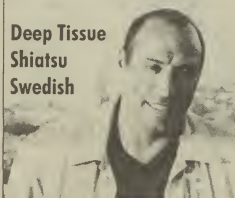
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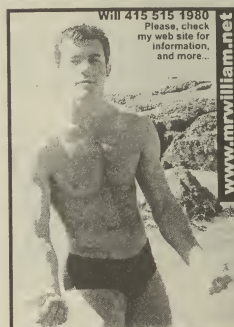


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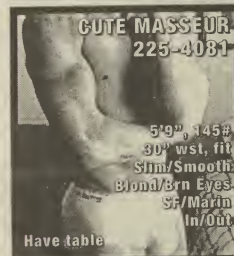
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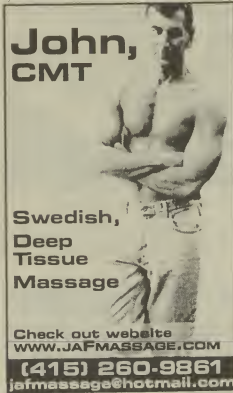
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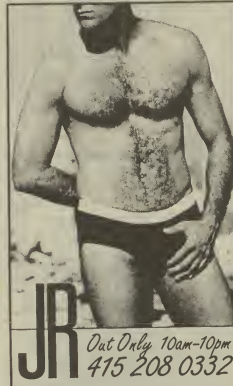
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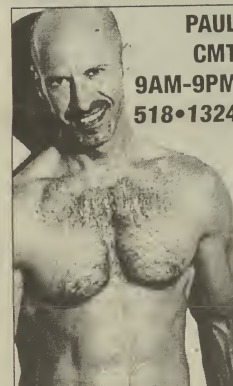
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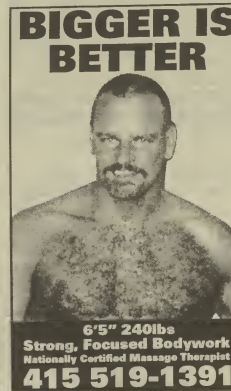
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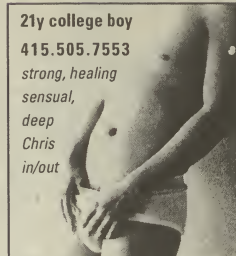
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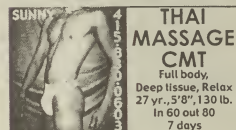


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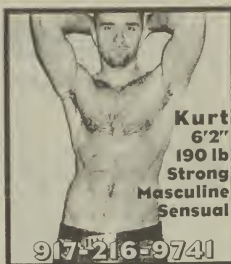
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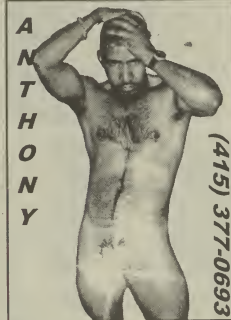
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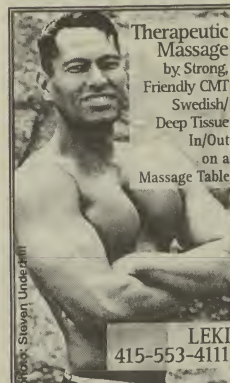
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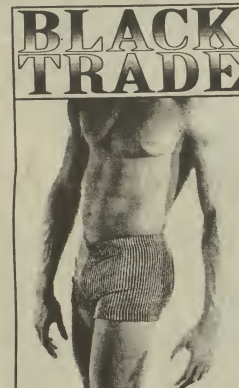
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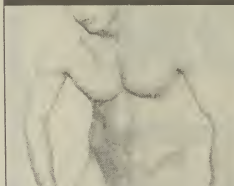
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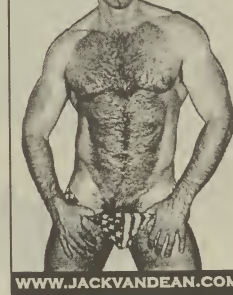
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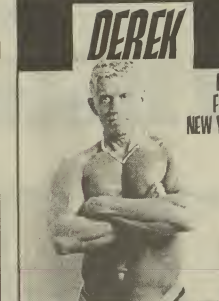
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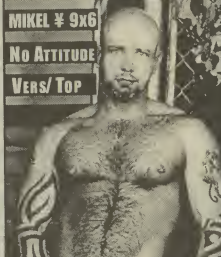


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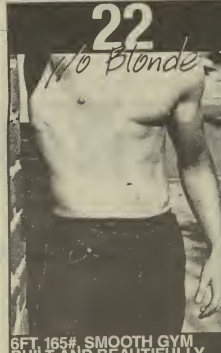
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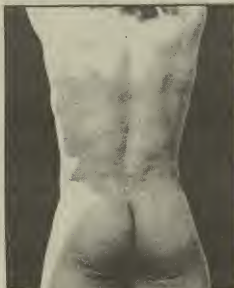
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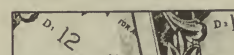
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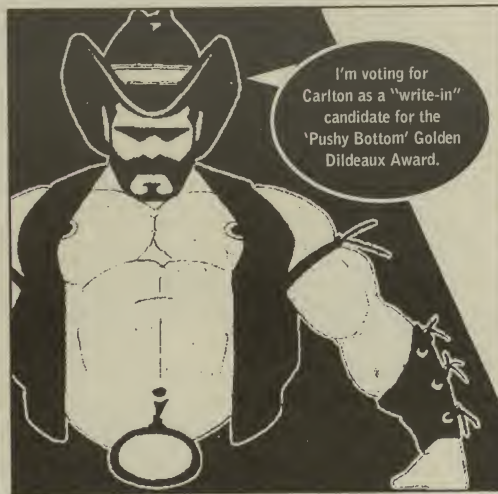
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JULIAN
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ONLY

PATIENT INFORMATION

SUSTIVA® (sus-TEE-vah)

[efavirenz (eh-FAH-vih-rehnz)]
capsules and tablets

ALERT: Find out about medicines that should NOT be taken with SUSTIVA.

Please also read the section "MEDICINES YOU SHOULD NOT TAKE WITH SUSTIVA." Read this information before you start taking SUSTIVA. Read it again each time you refill your prescription, in case there is any new information. This leaflet provides a summary about SUSTIVA and does not include everything there is to know about your medicine. This information is not meant to take the place of talking with your doctor.

What is SUSTIVA?

SUSTIVA is a medicine used in combination with other medicines to help treat infection with Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), the virus that causes AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome). SUSTIVA is a type of anti-HIV drug called a "non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor" (NNRTI).

SUSTIVA works by lowering the amount of HIV in the blood (viral load). SUSTIVA must be taken with other anti-HIV medicines. When taken with other anti-HIV medicines, SUSTIVA has been shown to reduce viral load and increase the number of CD4 cells, a type of immune cell in blood. SUSTIVA may not have these effects in every patient. SUSTIVA does not cure HIV or AIDS. People taking SUSTIVA may still develop other infections and complications. Therefore, it is very important that you stay under the care of your doctor.

SUSTIVA has not been shown to reduce the risk of passing HIV to others. Therefore, continue to practice safe sex, and do not use or share dirty needles.

What are the possible side effects of SUSTIVA?

Serious psychiatric problems. A small number of patients experience severe depression, strange thoughts, or angry behavior while taking SUSTIVA. Some patients have thoughts of suicide and a few have actually committed suicide. These problems tend to occur more often in patients who have had mental illness. Contact your doctor right away if you think you are having these psychiatric symptoms, so your doctor can decide if you should continue to take SUSTIVA.

Common side effects. Many patients have dizziness, trouble sleeping, drowsiness, trouble concentrating, and/or unusual dreams during treatment with SUSTIVA. These side effects may be reduced if you take SUSTIVA at bedtime on an empty stomach. They also tend to go away after you have taken the medicine for a few weeks. If you have these common side effects, such as dizziness, it does not mean that you will also have serious psychiatric problems, such as severe depression, strange thoughts, or angry behavior. Tell your doctor right away if any of these side effects continue or if they bother you. It is possible that these symptoms may be more severe if SUSTIVA is used with alcohol or mood altering (street) drugs.

If you are dizzy, have trouble concentrating, or are drowsy, avoid activities that may be dangerous, such as driving or operating machinery.

Rash is common. Rashes usually go away without any change in treatment. In a small number of patients, rash may be serious. If you develop a rash, call your doctor right away. Rash may be a serious problem in some children. Tell your child's doctor right away if you notice rash or any other side effects while your child is taking SUSTIVA.

Other common side effects include tiredness, upset stomach, vomiting, and diarrhea. **Changes in body fat.** Changes in body fat develop in some patients taking anti-HIV medicines. These changes may include an increased amount of fat in the upper back and neck ("buffalo hump"), in the breasts, around the trunk. Loss of fat from the legs, arms, and face may also happen. The cause and long-term health effects of these fat changes are not known.

Tell your doctor or healthcare provider if you notice any side effects while taking SUSTIVA. Contact your doctor before stopping SUSTIVA because of side effects or for any other reason.

This is not a complete list of side effects possible with SUSTIVA. Ask your doctor or pharmacist for a more complete list of side effects of SUSTIVA and all the medicines you will take.

How should I take SUSTIVA (efavirenz)?

General Information

- You should take SUSTIVA on an empty stomach, preferably at bedtime.
- Swallow SUSTIVA with water.
- Taking SUSTIVA with food increases the amount of medicine in your body, which may increase the frequency of side effects.
- Taking SUSTIVA at bedtime may make some side effects less bothersome.
- SUSTIVA must be taken in combination with other anti-HIV medicines. If you take only SUSTIVA, the medicine may stop working.
- Do not miss a dose of SUSTIVA. If you forget to take SUSTIVA, take the missed dose right away, unless it is almost time for your next dose. Do not double the next dose. Carry on with your regular dosing schedule. If you need help in planning the best times to take your medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.
- Take the exact amount of SUSTIVA your doctor prescribes. Never change the dose on your own. Do not stop this medicine unless your doctor tells you to stop.
- If you believe you took more than the prescribed amount of SUSTIVA, contact your local Poison Control Center or emergency room right away.
- Tell your doctor if you start any new medicine or change how you take old ones. Your doses may need adjustment.
- When your SUSTIVA supply starts to run low, get more from your doctor or pharmacy. This is very important because the amount of virus in your blood may increase if the medicine is stopped for even a short time. The virus may develop resistance to SUSTIVA and become harder to treat.
- Your doctor may want to do blood tests to check for certain side effects while you take SUSTIVA.

Capsules

- The dose of SUSTIVA capsules for adults is 600 mg (three 200 mg capsules, taken together) once a day by mouth. The dose of SUSTIVA for children may be lower (see Can children take SUSTIVA?).

Tablets

- The dose of SUSTIVA tablets for adults is 600 mg (one tablet) once a day by mouth.

Can children take SUSTIVA?

Yes, children who are able to swallow capsules can take SUSTIVA. Rash may be a serious problem in some children. Tell your child's doctor right away if you notice rash or any other side effects while your child is taking SUSTIVA. The dose of SUSTIVA for children may be lower than the dose for adults. Capsules containing lower doses of SUSTIVA are available. Your child's doctor will determine the right dose based on your child's weight.

Who should not take SUSTIVA?

Do not take SUSTIVA if you are allergic to the active ingredient, efavirenz, or to any of the inactive ingredients. Your doctor and pharmacist have a list of the inactive ingredients.

What should I avoid while taking SUSTIVA?

Women taking SUSTIVA should not become pregnant. Serious birth defects have been seen in animals treated with SUSTIVA. It is not known whether this could happen in humans. Tell your doctor right away if you are pregnant. Also talk with your doctor if you want to become pregnant.

Women should not rely only on hormone-based birth control, such as pills, injections, or implants, because SUSTIVA may make these contraceptives ineffective. Women must use a reliable form of barrier contraception, such as a condom or diaphragm, even if they also use other methods of birth control.

Do not breast-feed if you are taking SUSTIVA. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommend that mothers with HIV not breast-feed because they can pass the HIV through their milk to the baby. Also, SUSTIVA may pass through breast milk and cause serious harm to the baby. Talk with your doctor if you are breast-feeding. You may need to stop breast-feeding or use a different medicine.

Taking SUSTIVA with alcohol or other medicines causing similar side effects as SUSTIVA, such as drowsiness, may increase those side effects. Do not take any other medicines without checking with your doctor. These medicines include prescription and non-prescription medicines and herbal products, especially St. John's wort.

Before using SUSTIVA, tell your doctor if you

- have problems with your liver, or have hepatitis. Your doctor may want to do tests to check your liver while you take SUSTIVA.
- have ever had mental illness or are using drugs or alcohol.

What important information should I know about taking other medicines with SUSTIVA (efavirenz)?

SUSTIVA may change the effect of other medicines, including ones for HIV, and cause serious side effects. Your doctor may change your other medicines or change their doses. Other medicines, including herbal products, may affect SUSTIVA. For this reason, it is very important to:

- Let all your doctors and pharmacists know that you take SUSTIVA.
- Tell your doctors and pharmacists about all medicines you take. This includes those you buy over-the-counter and herbal or natural remedies.
- Bring all your prescription and non-prescription medicines as well as any herbal remedies that you are taking when you see a doctor, or make a list of their names, how much you take, and how often you take them. This will give your doctor a complete picture of the medicines you use. Then he or she can decide the best approach for your situation.
- Taking SUSTIVA with St. John's wort (*hypericum perforatum*), an herbal product sold as a dietary supplement, or products containing St. John's wort is not recommended. Talk with your doctor if you are taking or are planning to take St. John's wort. Taking St. John's wort may decrease SUSTIVA levels and lead to increased viral load and possible resistance to SUSTIVA or cross-resistance to other anti-HIV drugs.

MEDICINES YOU SHOULD NOT TAKE WITH SUSTIVA

The following medicines may cause serious and life-threatening side effects when taken with SUSTIVA. You should not take any of these medicines while taking SUSTIVA.

- Hismant® (astemizole)
- Propulsid® (caspiride)
- Versed® (midazolam)
- Halcion® (triazolam)
- Ergot medications (for example, Wygraine® and Cafergot®)
- The following medicines may need to be replaced with another medicine when taken with SUSTIVA:
- Fortovase®, Invirase® (saquinavir)
- Biaxin® (clarithromycin)
- The following medicines may need to have their dose changed when taken with SUSTIVA:
- Crixivan® (indinavir)
- Mycobutin® (rifabutin)
- Methadone

These are not all the medicines that may cause problems if you take SUSTIVA. Be sure to tell your doctor about all medicines that you take.

General advice about SUSTIVA:

Medicines are sometimes prescribed for conditions that are not mentioned in patient information leaflets. Do not use SUSTIVA for a condition for which it was not prescribed. Do not give SUSTIVA to other people, even if they have the same symptoms you have. It may harm them.

Keep SUSTIVA at room temperature (77°F) in the bottle given to you by your pharmacist. The temperature can range from 59° to 86°F.

Keep SUSTIVA out of the reach of children.

This leaflet summarizes the most important information about SUSTIVA. If you would like more information, talk with your doctor. You can ask your pharmacist or doctor for the full prescribing information about SUSTIVA, or you can visit the SUSTIVA website at <http://www.sustiva.com> or call 1-800-426-7644.

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SUSTIVA[®]

ONE tablet,
once daily, for
simpler HIV
combination therapy.

- Proven strength against HIV
- Generally well tolerated

Ask your doctor if a once-daily
SUSTIVA based regimen is right for you.

SUSTIVA (efavirenz) in combination with other antiretroviral agents is indicated for the treatment of HIV-1 infection.

SUSTIVA does not cure HIV or prevent passing HIV to others.

Safety Information

Many patients have dizziness, trouble sleeping, drowsiness, trouble concentrating, and/or unusual dreams. These feelings tend to go away after taking the medication for a few weeks. Mild to moderate rash is another common side effect. A small number of patients have reported severe depression, strange thoughts, or angry behavior. There have been a few reports of suicide but SUSTIVA has not been established as the cause. SUSTIVA should not be taken with Hismanal[®] (astemizole), Propulsid[®] (cisapride), Versed[®] (midazolam), Halcion[®] (triazolam) or ergot derivatives. Tell your doctor about any medications or herbal products (particularly St. John's wort) that you are taking. Women should not become pregnant or breast-feed while taking SUSTIVA.

Please see important information about SUSTIVA on next page.



www.sustiva.com

ONE Tablet

Once Daily
SUSTIVA[®]
efavirenz

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